

GENDER BAROMETER





Acknowledgements

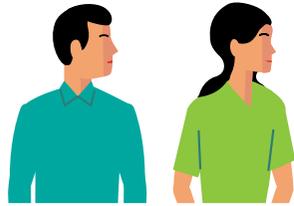
The 2017 Women Empowered for Leadership's Linking and Learning event in Zimbabwe led to the exchange on gendered data programmes that holds governments accountable. Data that can not be ignored and that puts gender equality centre stage: GenderLinks' Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Gender Protocol Barometer. Through this learning event, in 2018 MENA decided to begin the MENA Gender Barometer Pilot Programme.

Huge thank you to GenderLinks for the learning experience that has led to the MENA Gender Barometer. HIVOS would also like to thank our experts, Dr. Sara Ababneh, Huda Ayish, Joulia Bou Karroum, our lead coordinating team Samar Jubran, Mira Bouchmouny, Marcel van Der Heijden, and our creative team at Kafnoon Studio, who all helped to put the final product together, and our colleagues in Hivos Southern Africa Women Empowered for Leadership team for the support through the process.

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Gender



Gender refers to the roles, behaviors, activities, and attributes that a given society at a given time considers appropriate for men and women.

Source: UN Women

Gender Roles

Gender roles refer to social and behavioral norms that, within a specific culture and specific time, are widely considered to be socially appropriate for individuals of a specific sex. These often determine the traditional responsibilities and tasks assigned to men, women, boys and girls. Gender-specific roles are often conditioned by household structure, access to resources, specific impacts of the global economy, occurrence of conflict or disaster, and other locally relevant factors such as ecological conditions.

Source: UN Women

Gender-Based Violence, Acronym GBV

GBV is an umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will and that is based on socially ascribed (gender) differences between females and males. Examples include sexual violence and abuse, domestic violence; forced/early marriage; honour killings; and widow inheritance discrimination.

There are different kinds of violence:

Source: UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP, UN Women

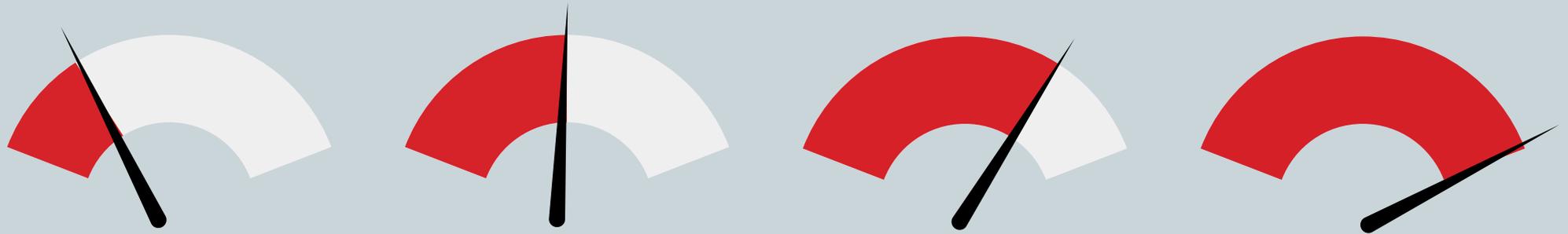
Physical violence: Physical violence is an act attempting to or resulting in pain and/or physical injury. It includes beating, burning, kicking, punching, biting, maiming, the use of objects or weapons, or tearing out hair. At its most extreme, physical violence may lead to femicide, or the gender-based killing of women.

Verbal violence: Verbal abuse can include put-downs in private or in front of others, ridiculing, the use of swear-words that are especially uncomfortable for the other, threatening with other forms of violence against the victim or against somebody or something dear to them. Other times the verbal abuse is related to the background of the victim, insulting or threatening her on the basis of religion, culture, language, (perceived) sexual orientation or traditions.

Sexual violence: Sexual violence includes many actions that are hurtful in the public and private sphere. Examples include rape marital rape and attempted rape, forced unsafe sex, sexual harassment, and for women abuse related to reproduction (forced pregnancy, forced abortion, forced sterilization).

Psychological violence: Psychological violence can include threatening behaviors that do not necessarily involve physical or verbal abuse. It can include actions that refer to former acts of violence, or purposeful ignorance and neglect of the other, isolation or confinement, withholding information, disinformation, etc.

Socio-economic violence: Socio-economic violence is both a cause and an effect of dominant gender power relations in societies. Most typical forms include taking away the victim's earnings, not allowing her to have a separate income or making her unfit for work through targeted physical abuse. In the public sphere this can include denial of access to education or (equally) paid work (mainly women), denial of access to services, exclusion from certain jobs, denial of the enjoyment and exercise of civil, cultural, social, or political rights.



Gender Barometer

Why Gender Barometer?

- Governments need to measure progress, take decisions, and put policies and strategies in place to ensure the lives of women and girls are improving.
- Civil society needs to hold governments accountable for their actions and decisions in order to ensure policies are put in place and decisions taken by government authorities are being effective in improving the lives of women and girls.
- Government agencies and organizations need to aggregate and produce locally owned up-to-date data in order to measure progress and/or the lack in ensuring improvement in lives of women and girls and be held accountable when necessary.
- Many governments in Arab countries are not committed to regularly producing and sharing a minimum set of indicators suggested by UN statistical divisions under the SDGs set of targets and its indicators of achievements.
- Many governments follow their own agenda on gender statistics, serving their own societal beliefs and political agendas, neglecting important indicators like data on violence against women, women's access to justice, barriers of women participation and sexual reproductive health rights.
- Data dissemination is also a problem that is subject to the political will, especially in the fields of unemployment and poverty.
- Data reported by government agencies remain incomplete, unreliable, and outdated.
- Data availability and accountability can allow citizens and institutions to monitor progress, identify gaps, and hold governments accountable.
- The lack of coordination between accountability institutions, limited data, and high levels of corruption present in the region are severely impeding the effectiveness of institutions in improving the situation of women in the region.
- Currently reported data is limited, mainly qualitative and lacks scientific quantitative data tools that measures the causes of inequalities and hinder countries from reaching gender equality (such as the Beijing Platform of Action and the CEDAW periodical reporting commitment).
- Gendered data produced by international agencies and research organizations, on the situation of women in countries, is not aggregated into one big consistent national report, neither updated periodically nor produced annually, as a must to enable citizens and local organizations to monitor progress on policies and hold governments accountable.

The Gender Barometer aims at regularly aggregating and publishing gender indicators with respect to international and national strategies and action plans, and serves to help citizens hold their governments accountable by being locally owned and produced. Without locally owned statistics produced on a regular basis, national women machineries and experts' practitioners in related fields may not effectively monitor gender equality and weak accountability institutions where governments are not held accountable will continue to persist. A Gender Barometer can therefore be used to enhance the role of national women's machineries as accountability institutions responsible for advancing the situation of women in the region and raising awareness on existing gender discriminations in the private and public sector and increase the national statistical centers knowledge on gender mainstreamed data.

GBV Jordan



- Gender-Based Violence in Jordan must be seen not only as domestic violence but also as structural violence against women, men, girls, and boys. When it comes to physical abuse boys from impoverished communities are especially vulnerable and should be protected and targeted by programs. More importantly, programs need to address structures that impoverish members of marginalized communities.

Source: Gender Barometer Jordan

- Gender Based Violence (GBV) is prevalent in Jordan, and despite the existing referral system, constitutional declarations, the Penal Code, and the Family Protection Law, there is a very high number of women exposed to some form of GBV during their lifetime.

According to the UNFPA, 8% of 0-18-year-old girls are victims of child marriage; 79% between 18 and 64 years are victims of domestic violence; 14% of ever-partnered women between 15 and 49 years have been victim to rape and sexual violence in the 12 months leading up to their study, and 24% had experienced this at least once

in their lifetime; On average 15-20 women are victims of honor killings every year, and in 2016 the number reached as high as 30.

The UNFPA provides technical support and services to victims of GBV, as well as capacity building for the Ministry of Health, CSOs, refugee organizations, and training on case management and caring for GBV survivors.

By March 1st, 2020 The Jordan GBV IMS Task Force published their annual report, about the type of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence by Sex and Age in 2019.

Source: UNFPA

- Domestic Violence is a key issue when working towards achieving gender equality, and women are victims of abuse at an alarmingly high rate in Jordan.

Despite the ratification of the Committee on Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) by Jordan, CEDAW has previously expressed concern that Jordan is regressing on gender equality, dropping to 140 in 2015.

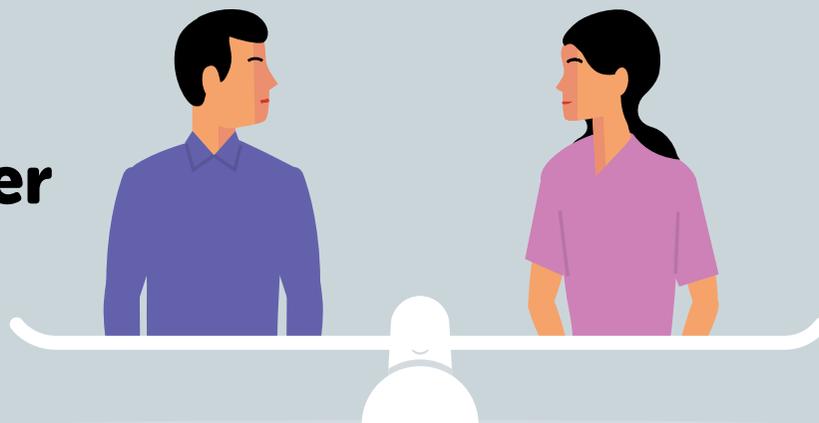
Source: Relief Web

- The Demographic and Health Survey of 2017-2018 uncovered a staggering prevalence for domestic violence in Jordan. Over one in five married women (21%; 15-49 years) experienced physical violence since the age of 15, of which some experienced this during pregnancy (2%). Only 24% of those who have experienced spousal physical or sexual violence reported injuries. Furthermore, 15% experienced controlling behaviors by their husband, and 26% experienced spousal physical, sexual, or emotional violence.

The numbers of reported domestic abuse cases in 2018 were over 11 000, and in 2019 20 women were victims of honor killings. Furthermore, a new concern is the suspected increase of domestic violence during the Coronavirus pandemic, due to the inability of organizations such as the Jordanian Women's Union to make field visits to women they fear are being abused.

Source: The National News

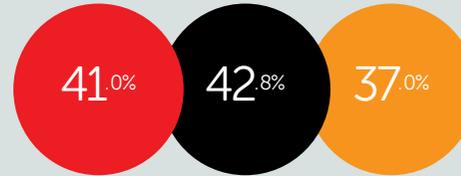
Gender Barometer Jordan Methodology



- Aims at studying practice not perceptions.
- Aims at understanding women's and men's intersectionality.
- Aims at treating people as knowers of their own lives.
- Aims at using surveys to learn from people and their experiences.
- Aims at trying to understand structural barriers.
- Aims at developing new quantitative ethics.
- Aims at understanding women not just as individuals but as members of communities.
- Aims at gendering communal and national problems.
- It follows an intersectional understanding of gender both in our instrument writing process and in the survey analysis.
- These indicators are used to calculate a specific social standing for respondents.
- The survey used a subjective approach to determine social class from respondent's self-identification lens and included the social context as part of structural context (social, political, economic, cultural, and environmental contexts).
- The survey focuses on the gendered practices in the lives of Jordanian women and men. Most surveys on gender and women's lives in the Middle East in general and Jordan specifically focus on people's perceptions towards women and girls. In this survey, we sought to study what people do instead of only what they think.
- The survey was designed through a collaborative effort by Jordanian academics and practitioners to meet the needs of both groups in terms of research and advocacy work.
- A desk review of relevant international surveys was conducted, and tested and amended as needed.
- A specialized training process was held to train fieldworkers to do the survey.
- Focus group discussion assessing the questionnaire and ensuring it spoke to the lived realities and problems of Jordanian women and men.
- Sample Population The Gender Barometer survey population involved adults from both genders, aged (18 years old and above). The sample consisted of Jordanians, and communities living in Jordan since 1967 such as people from the Gaza camp and the children of Jordanian mothers. Respondents were captured from all governorates in Jordan.
- The survey targeted Jordanians from all over Jordan, covering the twelve governorates, whose age group was 18+ years old.
- The sample size included 2400 participants, which were chosen to represent the 18 years old and above years adult population. Such adult population consists of: Jordanians (nation-wide) and Both genders (males and females) using a stratified cluster sampling with a margin error of (5%) with a confidence level of 95%.
- 50.2% of the people questioned identified as women, while 49.8% identified as men.

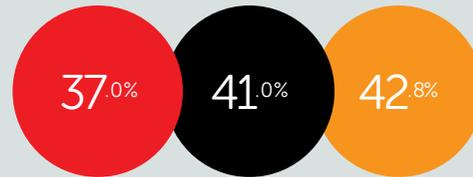
Violence in Marital Relations

- Upper class
- Middle class
- Working class

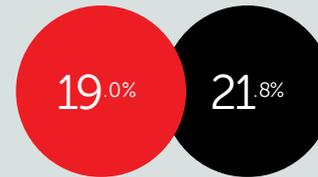


Reported being insulted or humiliated by husband or a husband's male relatives

Reporting Domestic Violence



Would not tell anyone



Would turn to relatives



Would turn to a male relative



Would turn to a female relative



Likely to go to the police



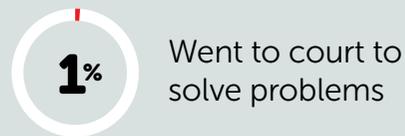
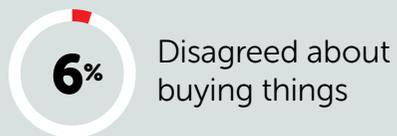
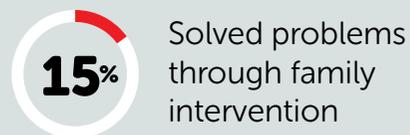
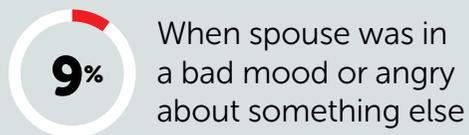
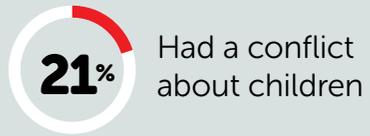
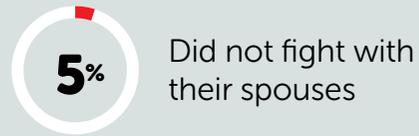
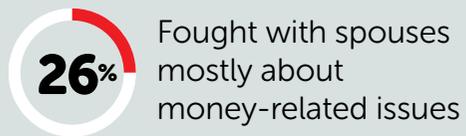
Likely to go to a family protection unit



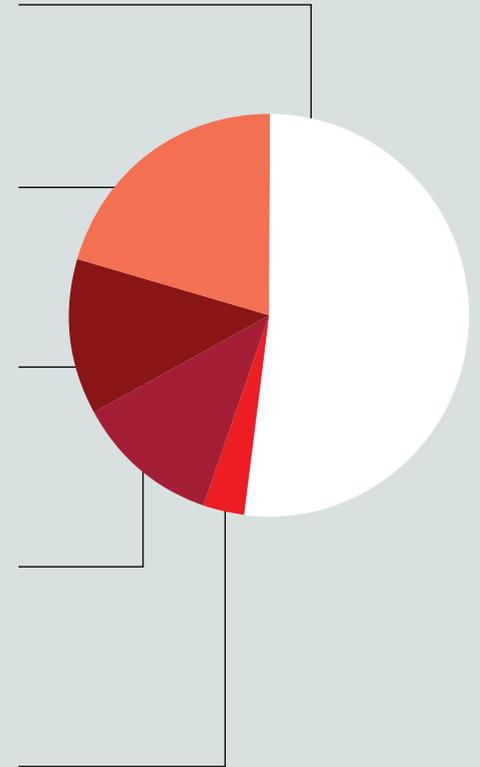
Would pray to God for help

Marital Conflict

Financial concerns

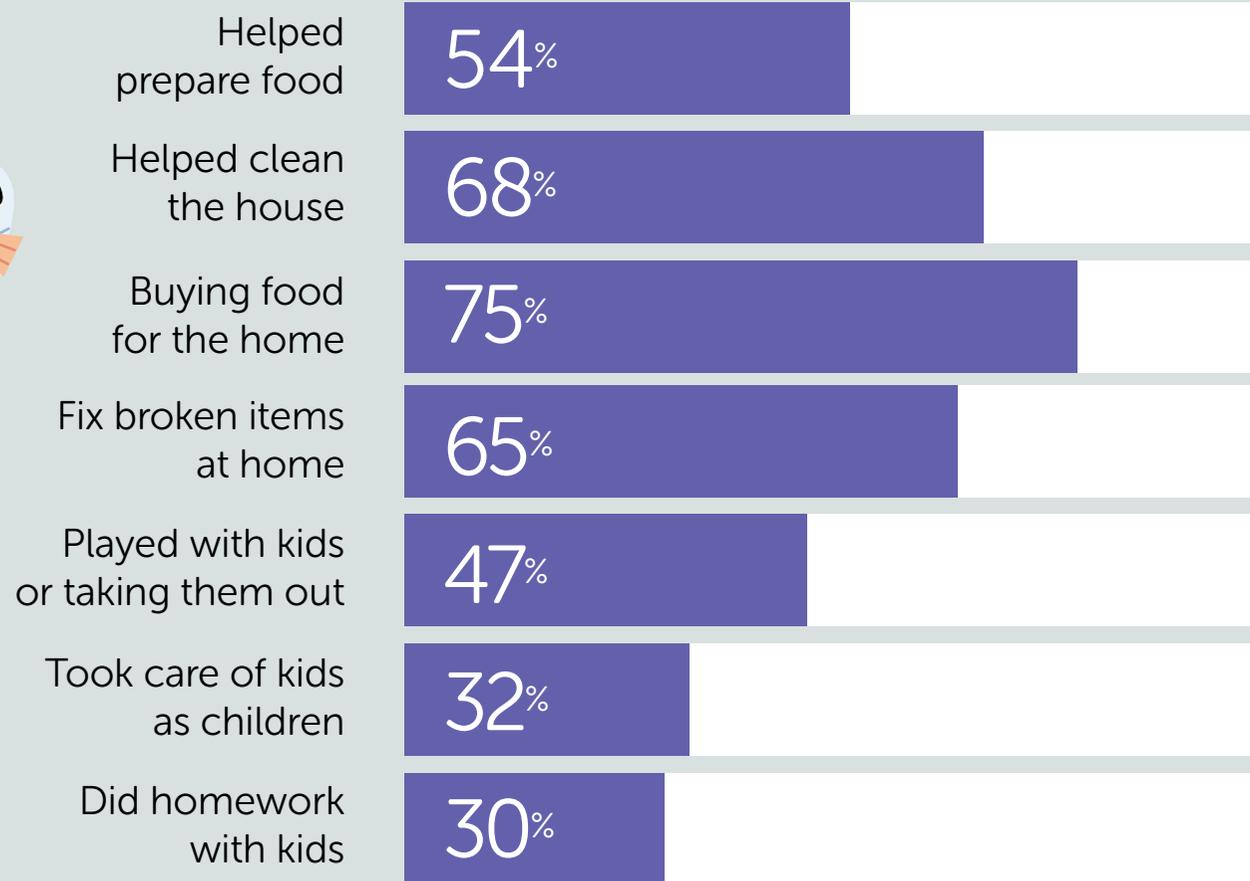


When there was conflict



Gender Role While Growing Up

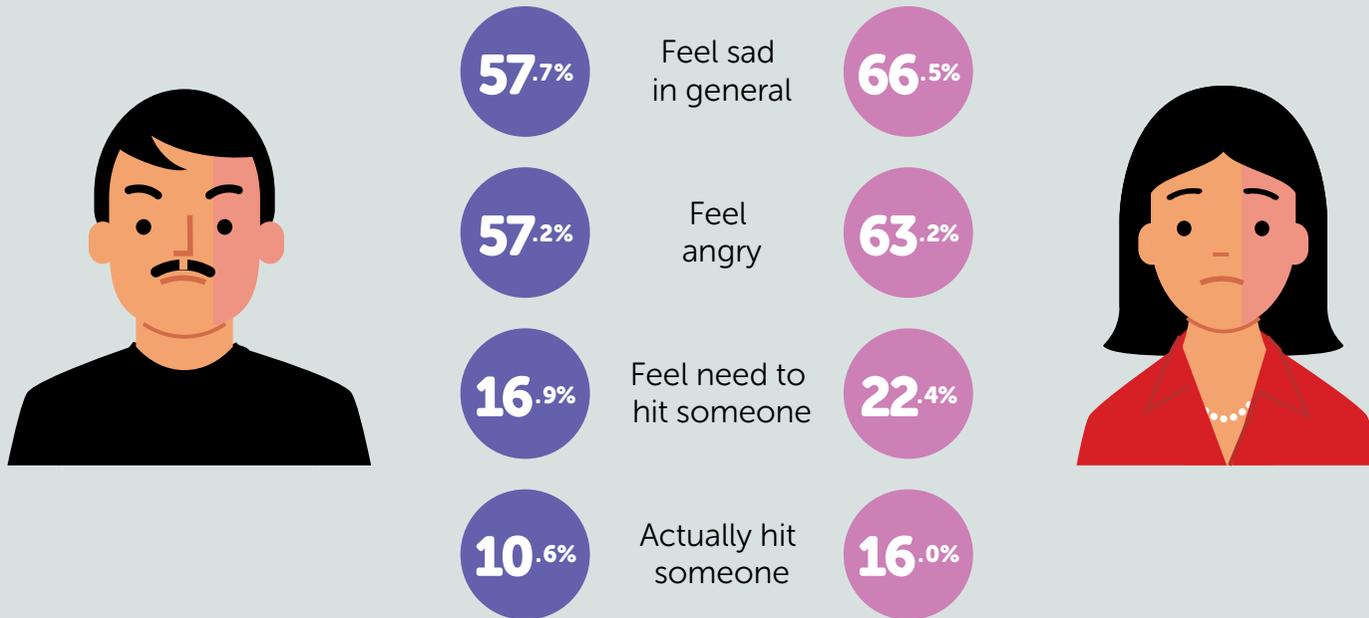
● Fathers



Mental Status

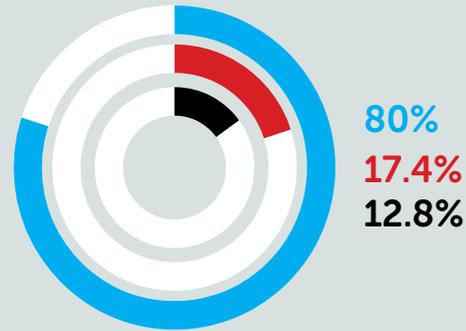
● Male
● Female

In total **62%** reported feeling sad **in general** and **41%** reported feeling sad **daily**

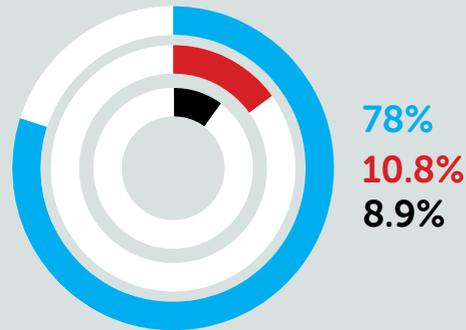


Memories of Violence Against Mothers

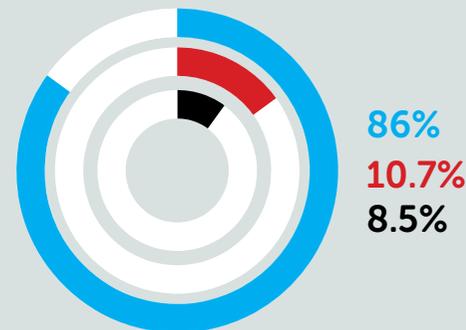
Saw or heard mother being **insulted** or humiliated by father or other male relative



Saw or heard mother being **beaten** or humiliated by father or other male relative



Saw or heard mother being **slapped, pushed, or shoved** or humiliated by father or other male relative



Female respondents were more likely than males to remember their mother being insulted or beaten.

This might be because girls spend more time with their mothers. It might also be that girls felt closer to their mothers or identified more with their mothers and therefore had more acute memories.

This gap in remembering highlights the subjective nature of memory, but also how the very act of seeing and hearing, and remembering is determined by subject position.

Working-class respondents were

18.3% More likely to remember their mothers being insulted or humiliated

11.9% More likely to remember their mothers being beaten by their father or another male relative

Memories of GBV



Being slapped, pushed, or shaken by their **fathers or another male relative**



Being slapped, pushed, or shaken by their **fathers** at home



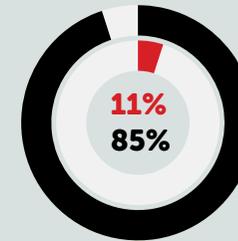
Being slapped, pushed, or shaken by their **mothers or another female relative**



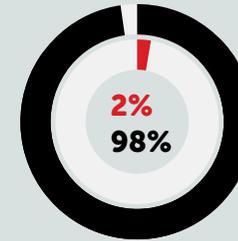
Slapped, pushed, or shaken **by their mothers when they were children**



Beaten at home with a belt, stick, whip, or another hard object **as children**



Burned by a family member as a form of punishment



Insulted or humiliated by someone in their family in front of other people

Over a fourth of respondents were physically disciplined as children.

Male respondents were **twice as likely** as female respondents to be beaten as children.

Working-class respondents were the most likely to report being slapped, pushed, or shaken by a male relative at a rate of 28.5%.

Working-class reported the **highest percentages of experiencing physical violence as children.**

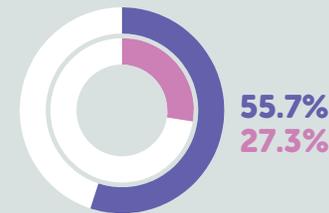
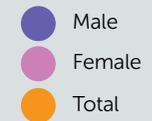
Working-class respondents were the most likely to report that they were slapped, pushed, or shaken **by their mothers** when they were young at a rate of **23.2%**, compared to 12.7% of self-identified upper-class respondents who said that they were **slapped, pushed or shaken by their mothers in the home.**

Self-identified working-class respondents were most likely to have said they were insulted or humiliated by someone in their family in front of other people at a rate of 14.1%, compared to 8.9% of middle-class respondents.

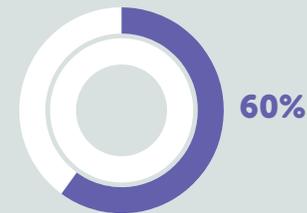
Working-class respondents were most likely to report being slapped, pushed, or shaken by their fathers when they were children at a rate of **27.6%.**

Working-class respondents recalled being slapped, pushed, or shaken by their mothers or another female relative at the **highest rate of 20.6%.**

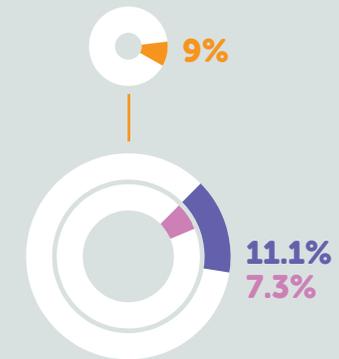
Perception of Future Partners



Marrying foreigners



Marry women who do not wear a headscarf (never-married male)



Care about their spouse looks

There are several reasons as to why women were **twice as unlikely to be willing to marry** foreigners:

- Jordanian nationality law does not allow Jordanian women to transfer their citizenship to their children. As a result, having **non-Jordanian children** is connected to many financial and legal difficulties.
- **Non-Jordanian children** do not have the right to go to public schools for free and have to pay foreign rates at Jordanian universities.
- Non Jordanian children have to apply for residency permits each year. They **do not have a right to live in Jordan after they turn eighteen.**
- Only Jordanians can work in many professions such as working in law, medicine, engineering.

Another reason could be **nationalism**; Whether it is nationalist sentiments or the unequal nationality law cannot be determined through this survey.

Perception of Future Partners

Women were more likely to have been asked by their superior **to conduct work they did not agree with** than men.

This experience was similar across the self-identified middle, working-classes, and those who say they have no income (below the working-class).

Women were more likely than men to be asked to perform additional tasks for which they were neither financially compensated, nor within their job description.

Self-identified upper-class women were far **less likely** to be asked and to agree to do this.

It was mostly working-class and middle-class women who were asked to perform extra work without financial compensation.

Previous studies have shown how exploitation, class privilege and gender privilege protect employees from being asked to perform tasks beyond the scope of their work.

The most **vulnerable social groups** were also the most likely to be exploited at the workplace.

GBV in Lebanon



Gender Based Violence in Lebanon

The following secondary data sets were collated by Hivos Gender Expert Team, as part of the methodology and limited data available in Lebanon.



Violence Against Women

Survey group



2461
Households



1380
Men



1380
Women



Trigger Warning

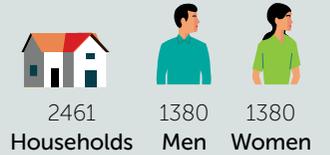
The following section contains sensitive and possibly triggering information and wording on violence, sexual abuse and coercion.



GBV in Lebanon

The Perception of Violence

Survey group



Perceptions of sexual violence:
percentages of respondents aged 18-59 agreeing or strongly agreeing
with selected statements related to sexual violence

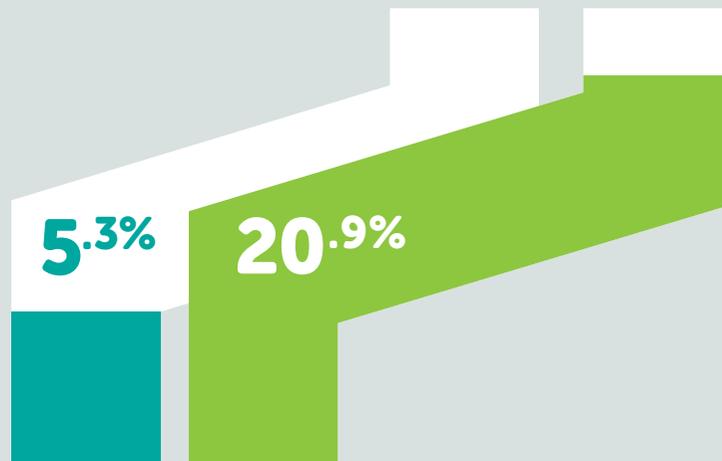


GBV in Lebanon

Survey group



There are times when a woman
deserves to be beaten

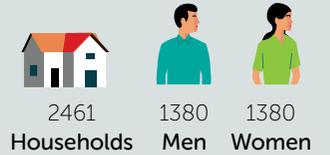


A woman should **tolerate violence**
to keep the family together



GBV in Lebanon

Survey group



Emotional
Violence

The Practice of Violence

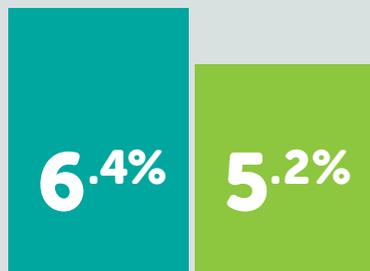
Physical acts carried out against partners



Wife threatened
with physical violence



Scared
or intimidated on purpose



Belittled or humiliated
in front of other people



Husband hurt people
that his wife cares about as a way of hurting her, or damaged things of importance to her



Insulted or deliberately
made to feel bad about herself

GBV in Lebanon

Survey group



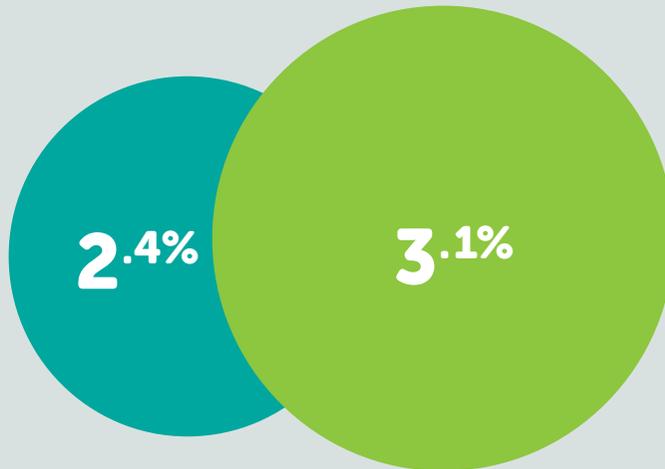
Physical Violence



Pushed or shoved wife



Hit wife with fists or with something else that could injure her



Slapped or threw something that could injure her



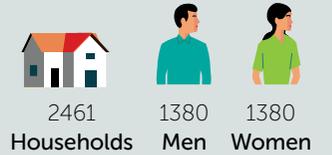
Threatened to use or actually used a **gun, knife** or other weapon



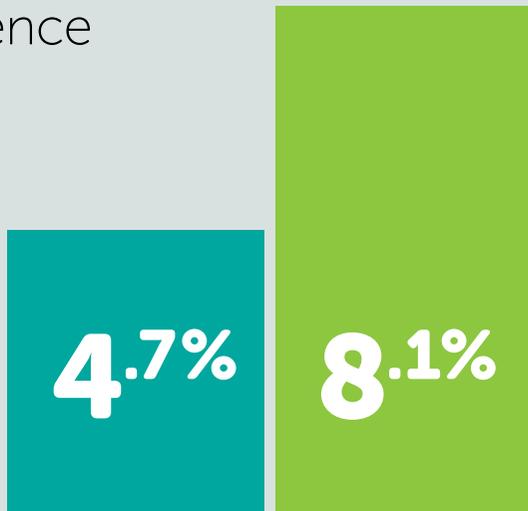
Kicked, dragged, beat, choked or burned

GBV in Lebanon

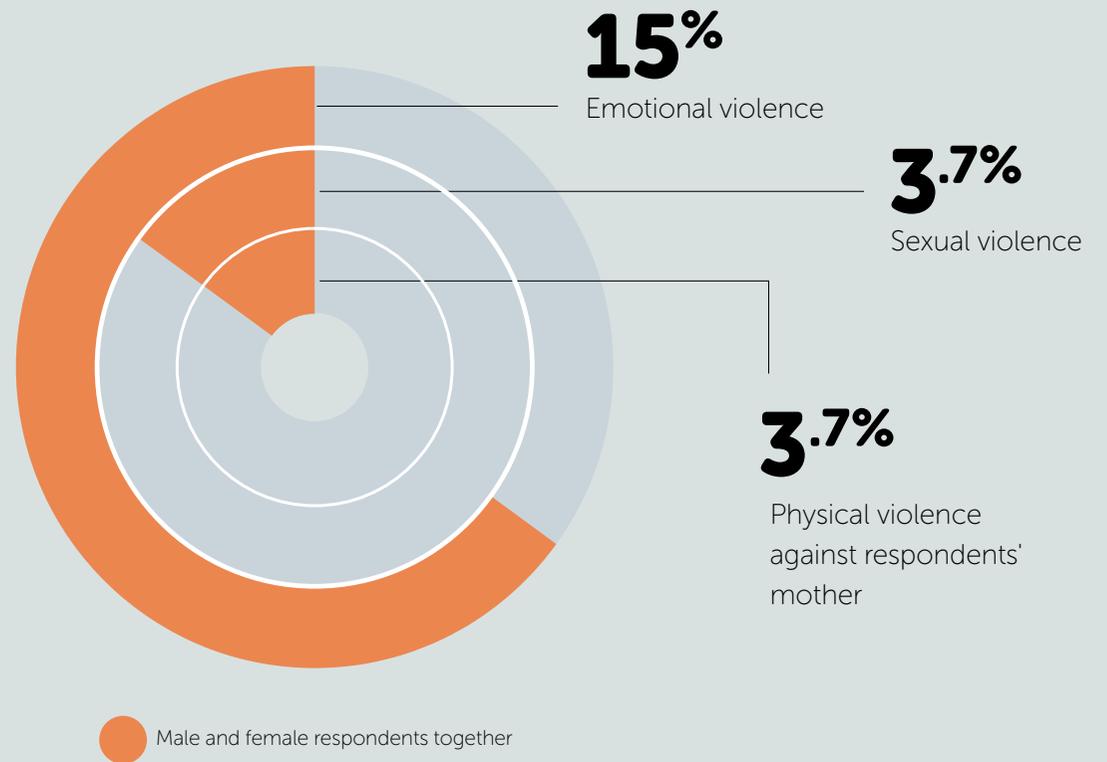
Survey group



**Sexual
Violence**

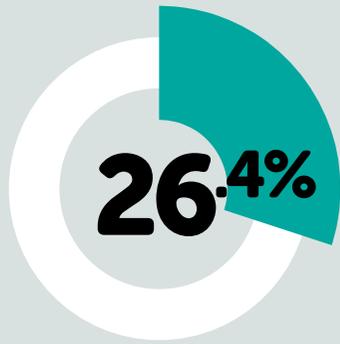


Wife **forced to have sex**
against her will

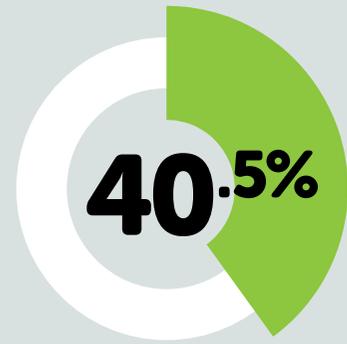


Intimate Partner Violence

Survey group
Lebanese
● 246 Men
● 272 Women



Emotional IPV



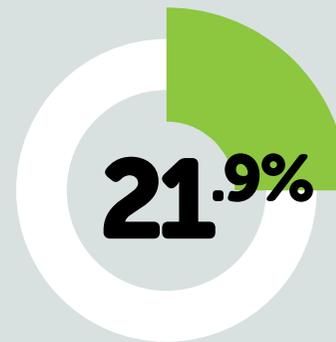
Emotional IPV



Physical violence



Sexual violence



Physical violence



Sexual violence

Intimate Partner Violence

35%

at Baseline



Emotional intimate partner violence

Women who reported experiencing an act of physical, emotional, or economic intimate partner violence at least once in the previous month

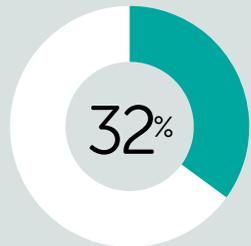
36%

at Baseline

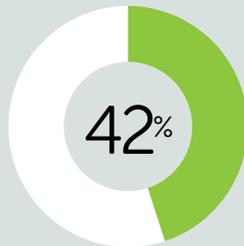


Physical intimate partner violence

Respondents who agreed with attitudes around violence



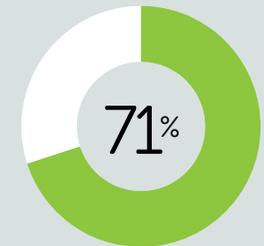
There are times when a woman deserves to be beaten



A woman should tolerate violence to keep the family together



Violence within the family is a private matter, and others should not interfere



Women, GBV Survivors & Men

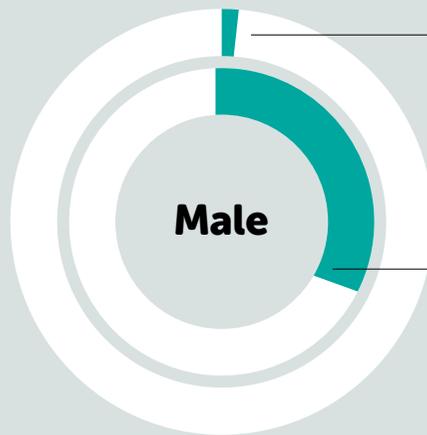
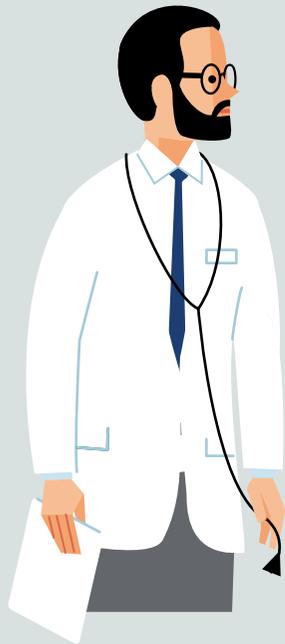
Survey Group
Lebanese and Syrian



437
Men

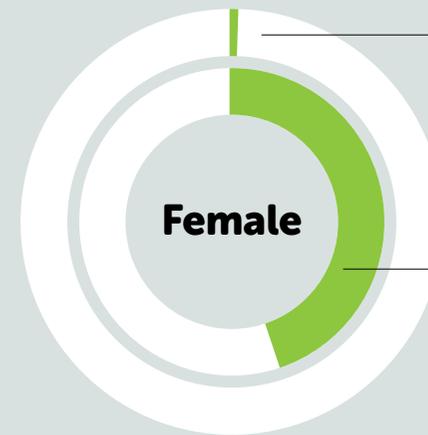
538
Women

Principal reason for survey respondent to seek medical attention



2.1%
Physical fight
or assault

27.6%
Depression



1.1%
Physical fight
or assault

40.2%
Depression

GBV Survivors and Men

Survey Group
Lebanese and Syrian

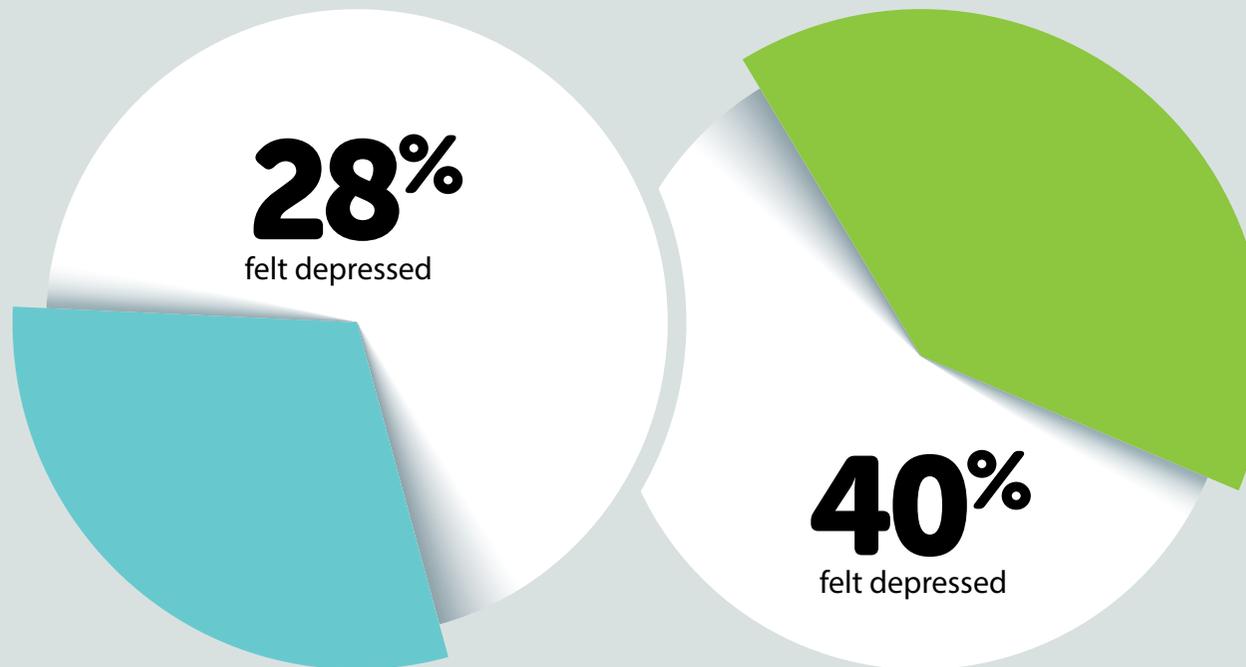


437
Men



538
Women

Principal reason for survey respondent
to seek medical attention



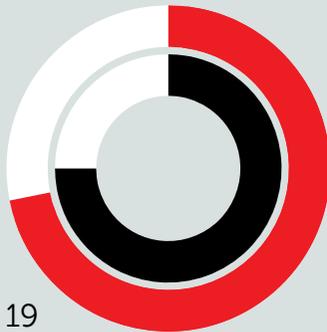
Services for Mental Health

Women using **coping mechanisms** by severity of distress

I try to get advice from someone about what to do

73%

Severity of distress, K6 less than 19



77%

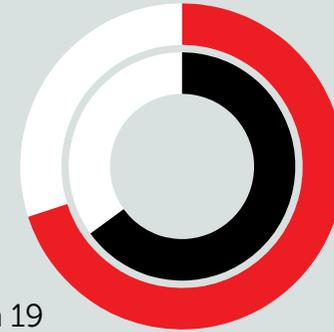
Severity of distress, K6 more than 18



I try to get emotional support from friends and relatives

70%

Severity of distress, K6 less than 19



66%

Severity of distress, K6 more than 18

The **K6** cut-point of 13 was developed to operationalize the definition of serious **mental illness**, defined as meeting diagnostic criteria for a DSM-IV **disorder** in the past 12-months and experiencing significant impairment, estimated to afflict about 6% of US adults (Kessler et al.,1996).

GBV in Lebanon

- In Lebanon gender as a concept is governed around cultural constructs.

Gender roles hold attributes reflecting on values existent in the culture, and in Lebanon is founded on the basis of the practices taken up by the constituents of a society, the customs they follow, and the day-to-day dynamics women and girls experience.

Lebanese society is based on the following predispositions: the female standing within the male prerogative, the legal framework that poses challenges for women (i.e. early marriage, personal status laws...), and women's sexual construct, and the restrictions of women's roles based on to "ensure protection and/or control of reproduction, intergenerational survival and family honor".

Source: UNFPA

- Societal norms not only shed light on the conservative nature of the Lebanese society, but also on the practices that reinforce the continuity of GBV, which are very easily identifiable.

The predispositions of these norms are the following: the tangible preference of males over females, the inclination towards perceiving males as "active" and girls as "passive" actors, which eventually subjects them to socially dominant-submissive dynamics. Normalizing the action and acceptance of GBV. This in turn leads to gaps in services, and obstacles for women to seek legal or informal help.

Source: UNHCR

- 31% of Lebanese women surveyed reported experiencing intimate partner violence, while 24% of the corresponding men claimed to have been perpetrators of violence.

GBV in Lebanon is not an isolated incident, it is a pattern of behavior that builds up. The buildups range from physical to psychological to sexual violence.

Slapping was the most recurrent form of physical violence, where physical violence was the most dominant form of GBV.

Threatening, pushing, belittling, and insulting in front of people or in public were also mentioned.

Source: International Commission of Jurists, Gender-based Violence in Lebanon

- Sexual violence comes up when speaking about types of GBV. It includes rape through intercourse, verbal sexual slurs, acts that bring discomfort, and a domination of sexual privacy.

In Lebanon the forms of violence are framed as violence against women and girls and include: "Intimate partner violence; child, early and forced marriage; forced pregnancy; honor crimes; non-partner sexual violence; sexual harassment; trafficking; violence condoned by the State; and violence against women and girls in conflict situations."

Source: ESCWA, Status of Arab Women Report 2017



- According to the UNFPA Scorecard on Gender Based Violence in 2016, 4% of Lebanese women aged 15-19 years are married or in a union. Thus child marriage is still a recurring phenomenon in Lebanon. Furthermore, it shows that intra family physical violence is one of the most reported types of violence. Among the 65% of domestic violence reports committed by family members, 71% were perpetrated inside the household. The challenges do not only lie with households, but in the system as a whole.

Source: UNFPA, LEBANON Scorecard on Gender-based violence, 2016

- A recent phone interview study conducted by UN women SGBV partners (ABAAD, CARE, DRC, IRC and INTERSOS) with 562 GBV services users (women and girls) across Lebanon, demonstrated the impact of COVID-19 on the SGBV situation in Lebanon, specifically in the households or community. 54% reported observing an increase of harassment, violence or abuse against women and girls in their household or community: 79% emotional violence, 55% physical violence, 53% denial of resources, 32% sexual violence, 31% discrimination, 15% threat of deportation/eviction, 4% child marriage.

Source: UN Women

- The 11th year of Syrian Crisis came with significant socioeconomic and political harm to both vulnerable refugee and host communities.

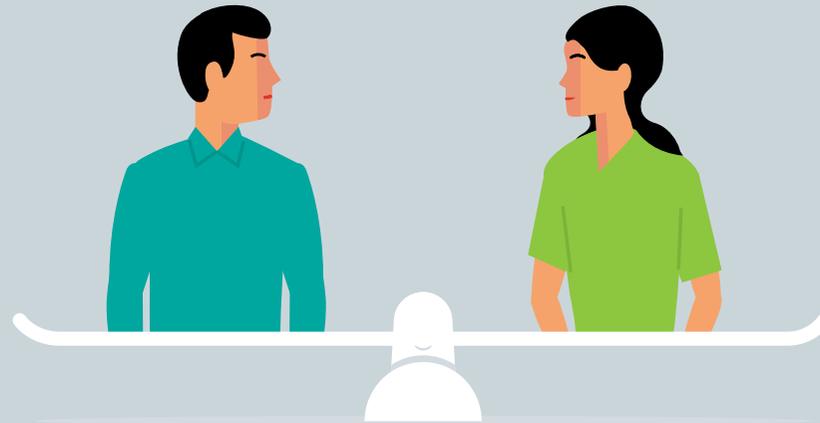
GBV poses a significant threat to Syrian women and girls in displaced communities. Recurring types of GBV exist, with a majority of reports being emotional violence. This is not limited to violence that occurs within the household; harassment, discrimination, and economic violence are also likely to occur outside the household.

Sexual violence was mainly perpetrated within the residence by the husband, neighbor, or owners of the house. With the residing economic deterioration women and girls are forced to go beyond the traditional gender roles, making way for increased rates of GBV.

Source: UNFPA



Gender Barometer Lebanon



Original methodology

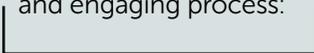
- Aims at collecting quantitative data on perception and practice among two main thematic areas.
- Aims at determining whether the international, regional, and national gender equality goals are consolidated within policies, and adopted nationally, goals and targets achieved or missed.
- Aims at enabling informing policies and supporting national advocacy and promotes accountability and most importantly, supports the government development and budget plan to support its development targets.
- Aims at supporting concerned Lebanese institutions to judge on what has been accomplished over a given period and assess to what extent the realization of women and girls' empowerment met its objectives.
- Aims to hold governments accountable for their actions and decisions in order to ensure policies are put in place and decisions taken by government authorities are being effective in improving the lives of women.
- The methodology consists of a cycle engaging different levels of research activities, data collection (quantitative and qualitative), data analysis, and consultation activities engaging main stakeholders.



1st phase consists of collecting existing Literatures on Gender Equality Measurement tools and conducting Desk review for national existing similar initiatives.

2nd phase consists of producing an in-house exercise identifying indicators of NAP and SDGs, localization of the international SDGs indicators versus the Lebanese context following an intersectional approach of different sectors.

3rd phase consists of identifying two main areas/themes of focus for measurements following a participatory and engaging process:



3rd phase

4th phase consists of collecting the data, starting with a touch base on existing Data Resource Centers, designing the Data Collection framework, structure and testing, collecting Raw Data and data entry, focus groups discussing the findings with identified stakeholders, refine the indicators and update Data collection framework.

5th phase analysis process, Quantitative and Qualitative analysis, closure and documentation of lessons learned.

- **Step 1:** Identification of Gender issues/focus and indicators, formation of a core committee to identify the key gender issues and relevant indicators to be derived from the SDGs and NAP.
- **Step 2:** Discussion of the National Gender Equality Indicators with

- project team members, discussion and approval of the primary indicators by the Gender Barometer Subcommittee for presentation at consultation meetings and for endorsement.
- **Step 3:** Adoption of NGEIs, refine and adopt the Gender Equality Indicators following the consultation meetings.

- **Step 4:** NGEIs Data, the baseline and targets of the indicators, definition of the indicator, computation method, source of data and frequency.
- **Step 5:** Discussion of Data findings, workshop discussion with selected experts.
- **Step 6:** Consultations to refine

- indicators with NGOs and partner organizations.
- **Step 7:** Validation and refinement of NGEIs - Stakeholders meetings to finalise the indicators, baseline and data.
- **Step 8:** Improvement of indicators, final review and consideration of new indicators and Research if needed.

Applied methodology

Original methodology

- Due to the challenging context in Lebanon that started mid of 2019, NCLW adopted an amended approach in producing the Gender Barometer.
- NCLW adopted a participatory approach throughout the research, in the sense that the research will strive to ensure that all NCLW partners, relevant stakeholders and beneficiaries are constantly updated and involved during the research execution.
- The methodology is based on Gender as a universal practice and the international conventions of the UN, CEDAW and Beijing.



1st phase: Brainstorming with the team and training team members on how to gather information and literature review. This phase included brainstorming sessions with the team and developing templates for the data collection. The team was also trained on the information to gather in the literature review for relevant reports and articles related to GBV and women participation in politics on national level.

2nd phase: Developing the appropriate tools and mapping at national level of NCLW partners. This phase included the development of the appropriate tools. It also included using Ona platform for data collection due to partial restrictions on movements and social gatherings due to coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and as well training the team on the collection of data via Ona. In parallel, a mapping exercise was conducted at the national level with NCLW partners in order to detect beneficiaries. The sampling and selection of partners and beneficiaries was based on response to the first need in terms of data collection for the NCLW.

3rd phase: Data collection via Ona system.

4th phase: Analysis and provision of key findings, lessons learned and recommendations. This phase concentrated on the analysis of the data collected and provision of key findings, lessons learned, conclusions and recommendations.

- Methods using a set of qualitative and quantitative tools were developed for data collection.
- Literature Review of Relevant Documents: The research is based on extracting Qualitative Data from Secondary Resources such as articles and reports done by United Nation bodies (United Nation Women, United Nation Development, United Nation Development Fund, ESCWA. In addition to these reports, some data were collected from studies done by local organizations such as KAFA, Arab Center for the rule of law and integrity, the Legal database of the National Commission for Lebanese Women and number of articles.
- Research Survey: Survey was conducted with Lebanese women, beneficiaries of NCLW local partners, to obtain qualitative and quantitative information for the study under the Women Participation theme. And with Lebanese, Syrian and Iraqi women to obtain qualitative and quantitative information for the study under the Gender-based Violence theme.
- The sampling in Participation of Women in Politics covered the five regions in Lebanon: Beirut, North Lebanon, Mount Lebanon, South Lebanon, and Bekaa regions, for a total of 201 women divided among five regions as follows: Beirut (20%), Mount Lebanon (20%), Beqaa (20%), South (20%) and North Lebanon (20%).
- The sampling in Gender-based violence covered the five regions in Lebanon: Beirut, North Lebanon, Mount Lebanon, South Lebanon, and Bekaa regions, for a 204 women divided among five regions as follows: Beirut (20%), Mount Lebanon (20%), Beqaa (20%), South (20%) and North Lebanon (20%).
- The questionnaire covering Women participation revolves around the following eight thematic subjects: Women profile, Personal information; Additional family data; Profiling of women, Educational level; Women

participation in parliamentary elections; Women participation in municipal elections; Women participation in ministerial positions; Lebanese laws; Media campaigns.

- The questionnaire covering Gender-based Violence revolves around the following eight thematic subjects: Profiling of the respondents; Exposure to physical and verbal GBV by the partner; Witnessed GBV in the surroundings; Mental health for women and men; Knowledge and access to hotline and helpline; Services; Knowledge and access to shelters; and Needs.





- Verbal violence records higher percentages than physical violence, 43.08% and 18.56% respectively. 52% of women don't know that the ISF has announced a free hotline to support victims of domestic violence. For the ISF hotline, out of the respondents 48% answered that they know the number.



- Among the victims only 8.33% used the ISF hotline and 14.29% used NGO's helplines. Out of all the women who called the hotline and helplines, 75% said that calling the helpline was efficient and 66.67% considered their call to the hotline useful.

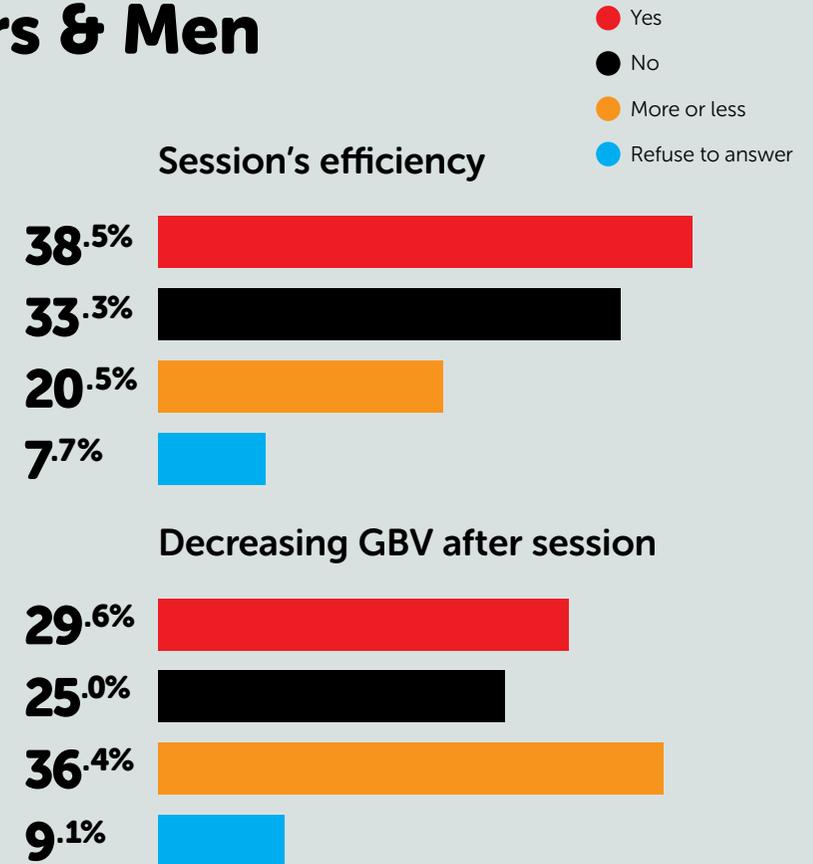
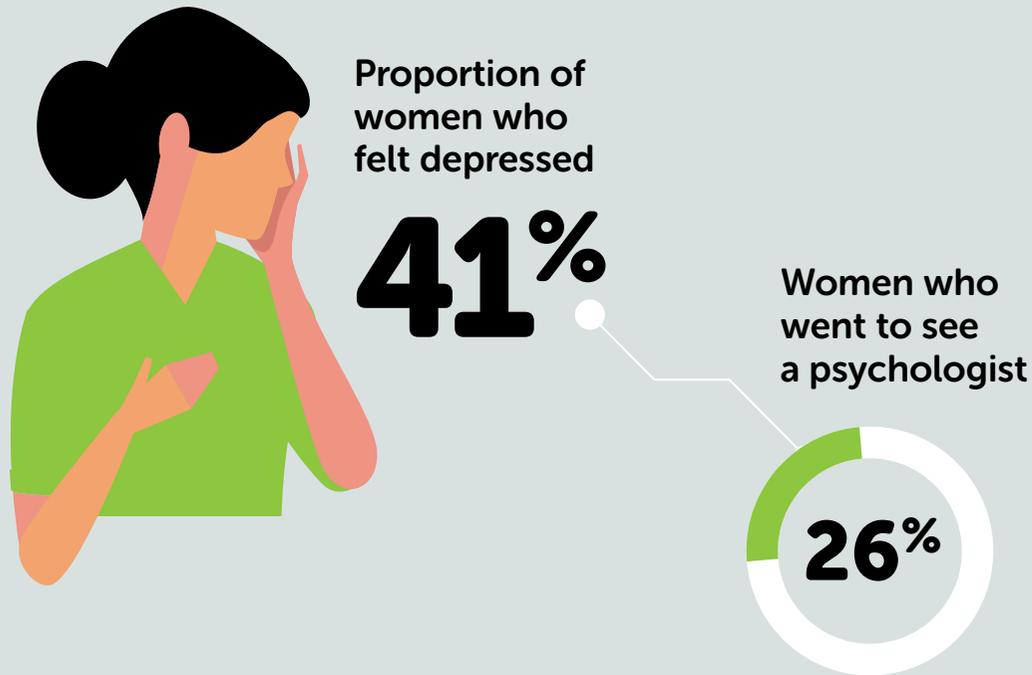


- There is a high percentage of women who don't know about "the shelters offered to GBV victims" and this indicates the absence, or the shortage of awareness accorded to this issue and corresponding service.



- Women reported that a very low percentage of the population go to psychologists (22%), however the majority of women mentioned that after COVID-19 crisis and the Beirut blast of August 4, 2020 all the Lebanese are experiencing depression and need to seek help, which might not be the case during different/better conditions in the country.

Women, GBV Survivors & Men



Consistently with other studies, the results show that women know more depressed women (**50.2%**) when compared to men (**32.0%**).

As reported by the respondents, the main reasons why a high percentage of men and women do not go to psychologists are: money issues, scared from the community, think they are not crazy, or they do not believe mental health issues are a real disease. An additional barrier that prevents women from accessing or requesting services for mental health is the fear from the partner.

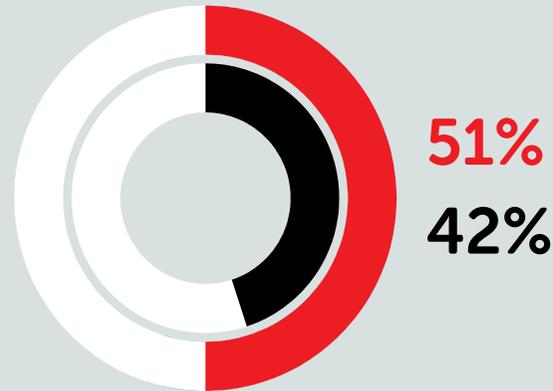
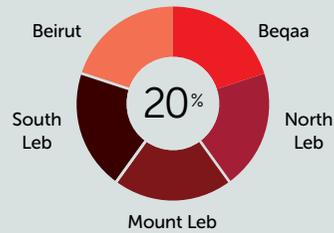
A high percentage of women reported that their partner is not depressed (**62%**) despite the high comments that we received about the bad economic situation in Lebanon and a very low percentage of the depressed men have sought help (**18%**).

Only those who reported that their husbands are depressed (**25%**) were questioned if their husbands have seen a psychologist, and only **18%** out of **18%** clarified that their husbands have seen one.

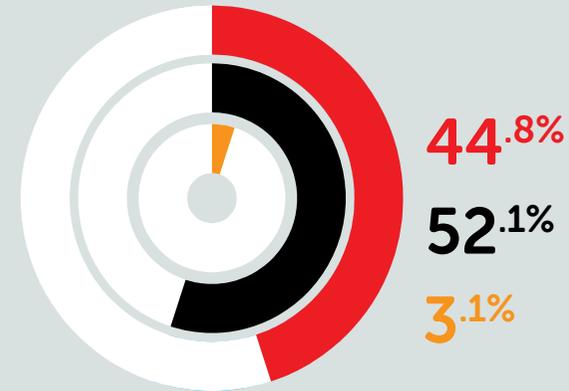
GBV and Shelters



Sample consists of 204 women divided among five regions



Proportion of women who know **there are shelters**



Proportion of women who would **use a shelter**

Many women were **victims of any type of violence**, whether physical, verbal or sexual, by their **intimate partners**.

Some women need to be taken to shelters in order to **feel protected and safe**.

Women are interested to know about shelters and this sheds the light on the need for women to feel protected and safe in case **they ever find themselves in a situation of violence**.

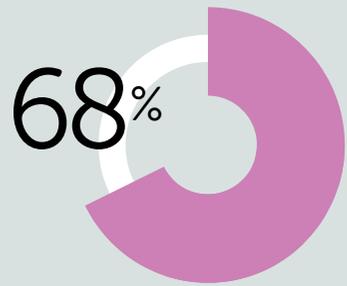
Women who know of the **existence of shelters** are more familiar with their services provided.

44.8% of women didn't mind going to these shelters in return for their safety and protection.

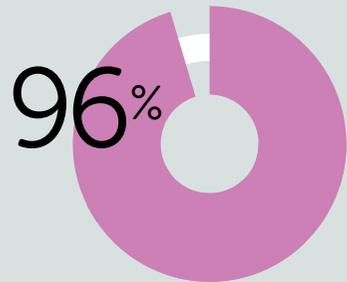
52.1% answered that they would not turn to these shelters in case of violence and would stay with their perpetrators either out of fear of social stigmatization or in order to stay with their kids and take care of them, knowing that women are the vulnerable groups in the Middle East, and are expected to be "housewives".

3.1% refused to answer this question, which shows that women are not very comfortable discussing such matters.

Services Against GBV

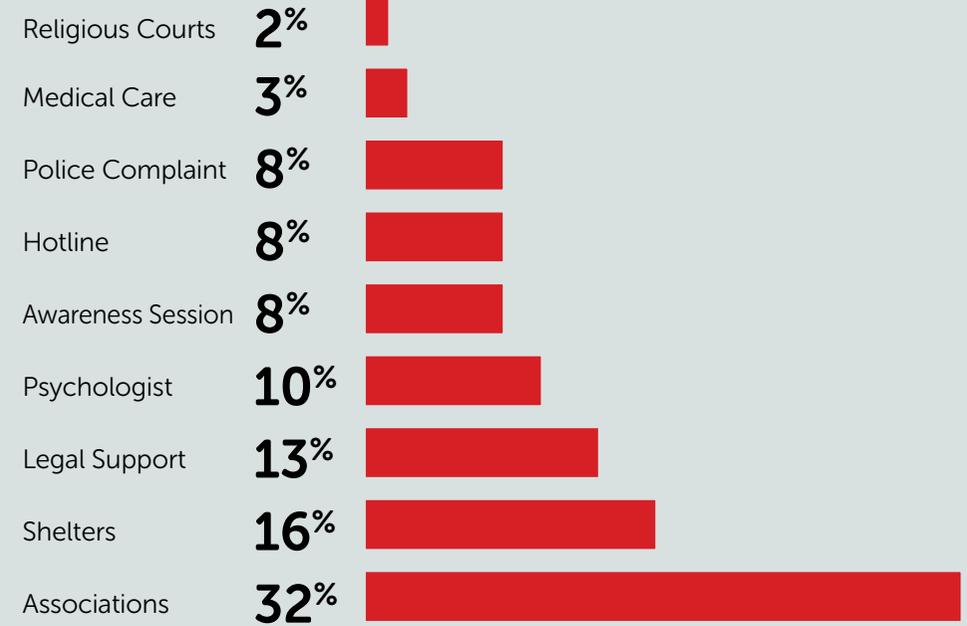


Women who **know about** the services against GBV



Women who **used the services** against GBV

Respondents who know about **services** per sector



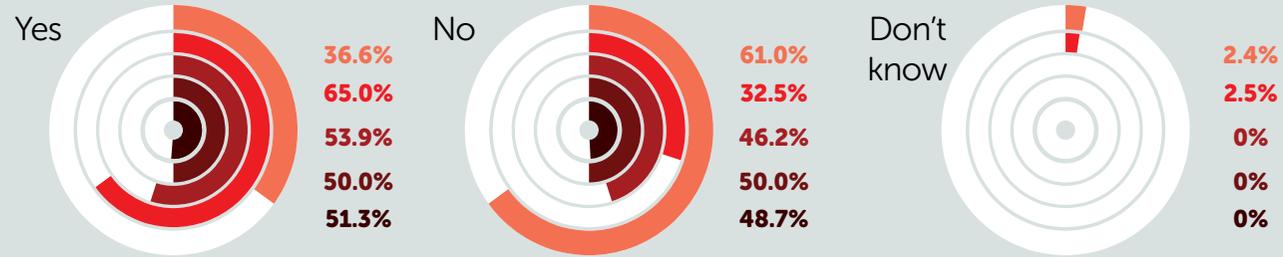
Intimate Partner Violence

Sample size
204 Women

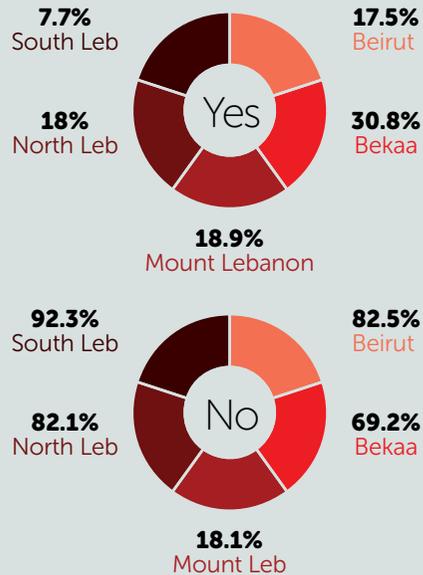
Beirut 20%
Bekaa 20%
Mount Leb 20%
North Leb 20%
South Leb 20%



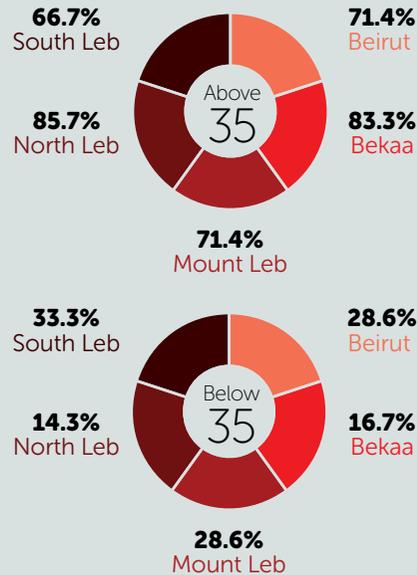
Witnessed violence



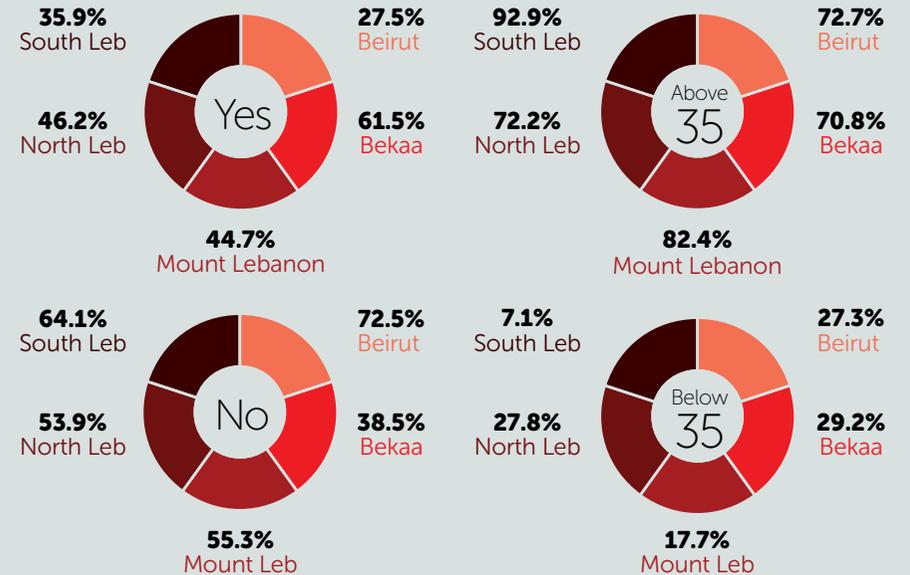
Women who experienced intimate partner violence or violence within the household in the previous 12 months



Women who experienced physical violence over the last 12 months



Women who experienced verbal violence over the last 12 months



Intimate Partner Violence

Women were more expressive when asked about an objective experience of witnessing violence than those of **personal verbal** and **physical violence**.

51.27% answered that they have witnessed someone subjected to **domestic violence**.

It is important to note that the respondents hesitated when asked who the victims were.

When asked an objective question, some respondents first reported that it was none of their business and they do not want to put anyone at stake, although women were more open with regards to details.

We ought not remove the **prosopopoeia effect**, where a "friend", "neighbor", or "person from the family" is used as an imaginary subject to superimpose onto them personal experiences.

Often women subjected to violence feel more relaxed speaking about someone else, to admit **personalization**.

GBV Hotlines and Helplines

- Hotline (ISF 1745)
- Helpline (CSOs and NGOs)



48%

Women who **know about** the hotline

8%

Women who **called** and got help from a hotline

8%

Women who called a hotline and was **not efficient**

19%

Women who **know about** the helplines

14%

Women who **called** and got help from a helpline

0%

Women who called a helpline and was **not efficient**





Women Participation

Women's political participation

Women's political participation refers to women's ability to participate equally with men, at all levels, and in all aspects of political life and decision-making. Women's participation and access to formal political power structures vary across countries. There is a steady upward trend in women's political participation and representation in developed countries particularly in Nordic countries. Nine of the twelve countries where women's representation in parliament is more than 33%, ranked high in the human development index. However, the improvements in medium and low human development countries are not significant. The structural and functional constraints women face are shaped by social and political relations in a society. The common pattern of women's political exclusion stem from (a) social and political discourses (b) political structures and institutions and (c) the socio-cultural and functional constraints that put limits on women's individual and collective agency.

Source: Bari, Farzana (2005) Women's Political Participation: Issues and Challenges

- Women's engagement in politics is desirable and important for three

key reasons. First, its symbolic effect; secondly, the spillover effect it has on women and girls status in society; and finally, the positive correlation between women's engagement and the promotion and implementation of gender responsible and inclusive policy.

Source: Bush S. (2011), Dasgupta N. and Asgari S. (2004), Asieady E. Bransette C. Geakwad-Babulal N. and Malokele N. (2016)

- Ensuring equal opportunities for women in politics is not only about increasing their representation, but also enabling their full and equal participation after election and within political institutions. Factors that determine women's representation in national legislatures or executives include the general progress towards achieving equality of rights and opportunities among women and men in the public and private spheres, the design of political and electoral systems and the level of institutionalization of, and transparency in, political decision-making.

Source: OSCE/ODIHR (2014)

Glass ceiling

The term glass ceiling is a metaphor used to describe invisible workplace

barriers (glass) to higher and or managerial positions, women can see them but can't reach them. These barriers prevent large numbers of women and ethnic minorities from obtaining and securing the most powerful, prestigious, and highest-paying jobs in the workforce.

Sources: UN Women

Women's economic empowerment

Gender equality in the economy refers to the full and equal enjoyment of women and men in their economic rights and entitlements facilitated by enabling policy and institutional environments and economic empowerment. Economic empowerment is a cornerstone of gender equality that refers both to the ability to succeed and advance economically and to the power to make and act on economic decisions. Empowering women economically is a right that is essential for both realizing gender equality and achieving broader development goals such as economic growth, poverty reduction, and improvements in health, education and social well-being.

Sources: UN Women



Women Participation in Jordan



- Women in the Kingdom of Jordan were granted the right to vote in 1982. Women exercised their right to vote for the first time in 1989.

Women's proportion of membership in political parties has increased during the past decade, from 29.1% to 35.3% in 2018.

Female members of the National Jordan Appraisal Front make up 62%. With 40% reported to be working in top-level management.

Although strong engagement with political parties is not very widespread, neither for men nor women, males still reserve a higher rate of participation in political parties. Of the 20 female members within the 18th House of Representatives, only 4 are members of political parties.

In 2017, women managed to win 241 seats through competition and 549 on the quota, occupying 175 seats of municipal council and 342 of local councils. This is the highest in the history of Jordanian local and municipal general elections.

A major loss for women took place in the 2017 decentralized elections, winning only 4 out of 335 seats. A significant defeat for women at the level of heads of municipalities took place, with women winning zero number of seats.

Despite legislative and institutional reform aimed at improving women's participation and engagement in the sphere of political decision making and influence of Jordan, the sphere remains – like in many countries worldwide – heavily male dominated and parity is far from reality.

In Jordan, women's participation in political parties date back to the 1950s, when the Jordanian Communist Party was the first to include women in its ranks, followed by the nationalist parties and the Ba'ath Party. However, this came to a halt when they were illegalized in the country between 1957 and 1992.

Source: Gender Barometer Desk Review

- With the introduction of the Political Parties Law of 1992,



women were granted the right to participation in political parties. Since then, women have become among the founding and active members of political parties.

Source: Barakat (2016) Women's Role in Jordanian Political Parties

- Nationally, women's proportion of membership political parties has increased during the past decade, from 29.10% to 35.30% in 2018. According to the OECD's 2018 report on women's political participation in Jordan, up to 62%

of members of the National Jordan Appraisal Front are women. They even reported to make up 40% of the top-level management. In addition to this, 40% of membership to the Reform and Renewal (HASAD) Party are held by women, and it is the first Jordanian party to have a woman as its leader and to integrate gender into the party by-laws.

Source: Jordan Department of Statistics (DoS) (2020) Politics Database: Political Parties, OECD (2018) Women's Political Participation in Jordan

- Prime Minister Omar Razzaz's cabinet consists of 28 ministers, 4 of which are women. Despite being at the highest level in Jordanian history, women makeup marginal parts of the Cabinet and has done so for the past decade, albeit with improvement. Hala Adel Zawati, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources; Basma Mousa Isgaqat, Ministry of Social Development; Majd Mohammad Schweikeh, minister of Tourism and Antiquities; and, Yasra Asim Abdullah Ghosheh, Minister of State for the Development of institutional Performance. While there had been a positive increase in women's appointment to the Cabinet from 2016 to 2019, the reshuffling of November 2019 saw the reduction in female Ministers from 7 to 4 in total.

Source: HKoJ (2020) Ministers and Ministries

- Unemployment figures for women stand at 26.8%, the regional average for MENA is 25%, and the national average for unemployment 19.3% in January 2020.

Source: Trading Economics (2020) Jordan Unemployment Rate (TE)

In 2019, the female labor force participation rate in Jordan was 14.39%.

Source: World Bank (2020) Jordan

- The largest economic sectors for women's employment are the education sector (64.3%); the sector for human health and social work activities (48.3%) and activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies (36,1%).

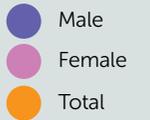
Jordan has one of the largest gender gaps in early-stage entrepreneurship activity in the region standing at 0.59, and economic and investment empowerment indicators for women in Jordan are relatively low.

Women's participation in the workforce relies heavily on family encouragement, and legal frameworks aimed at protecting women may also inhibit their equal participation alongside. Low wages and poor transportation also act as barriers.

Source: Jordan Enterprise Development Corporation (JEDC) (2019)



Economic Lives



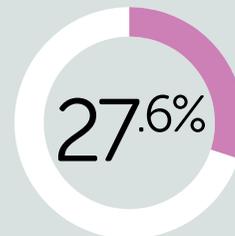
41%

Worry (always or mostly) about not **having enough money**

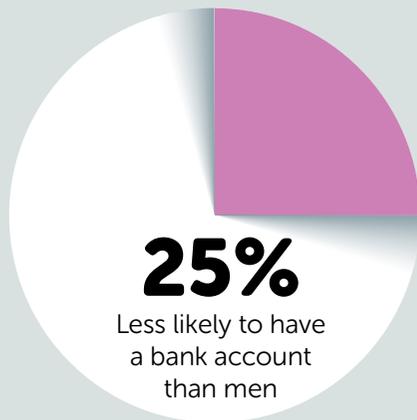
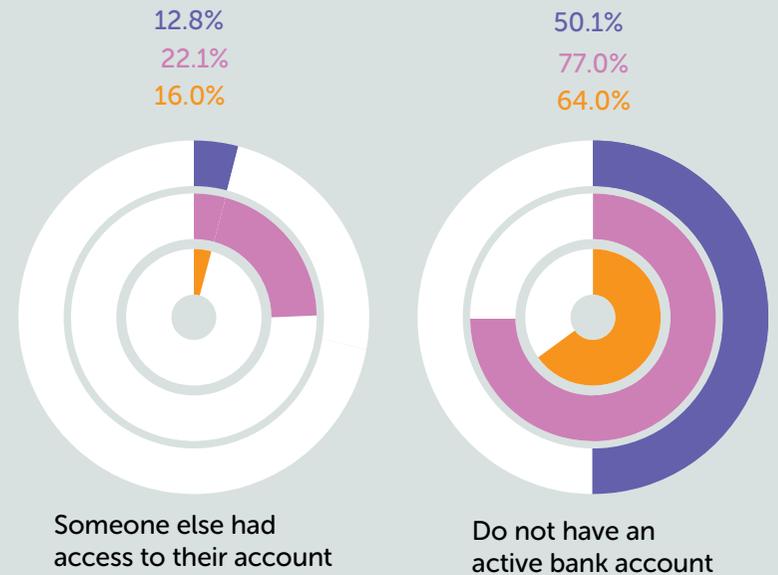
48%

Do not have enough money to purchase **clothes**

Worried that their husbands or wives **spend too much on cigarettes**



Having bank accounts



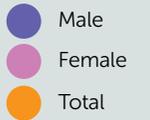
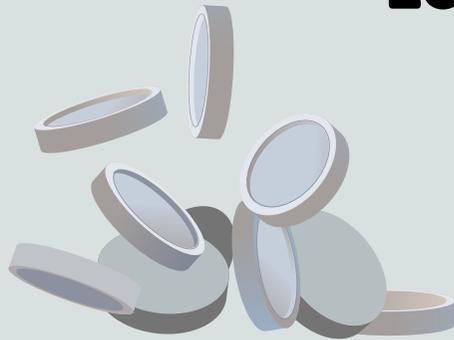
Women were twice as likely for **someone else** to have access to their account.

For both sexes, it was the **spouse who had access** to their account.

Male respondents also reported that their **parents and sons had access** to their accounts.

While female respondents said that both **sons and daughters had access**.

Economic (in)Security



This means that the economic insecurity of **not having enough income** every month to cover basic needs is faced by the majority of Jordanian women and men equally.

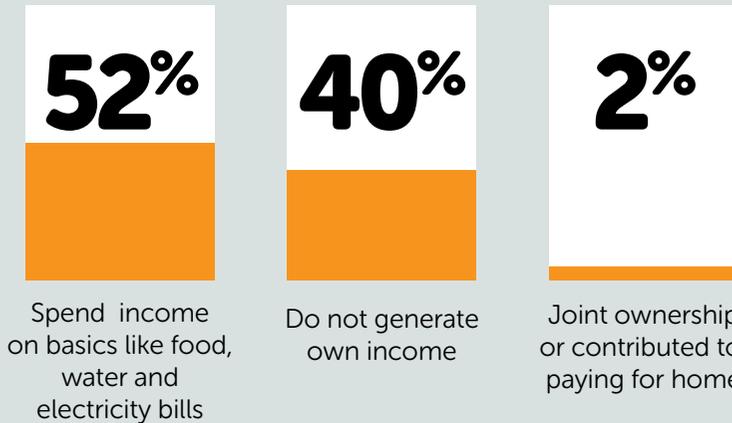
Women were slightly more likely to **borrow from their parents and family**, and the neighborhood supermarket than men.



Family Spending

● Total male and female

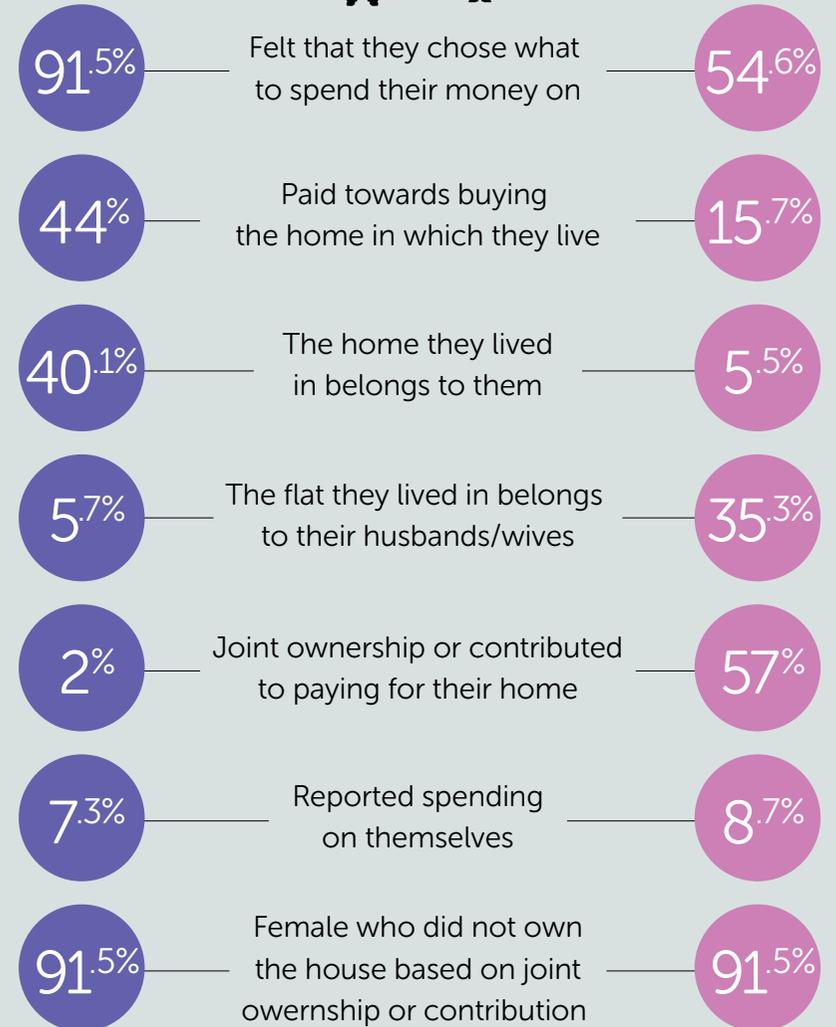
● Male
● Female



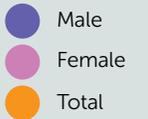
Men were more likely to feel that they **chose how to spend their money** than women.

Male respondents were almost three times as likely to **contribute towards paying** for family houses and flats than women.

19% of women who contributed to buying real estate **did not end up owning** the property.



Transportation

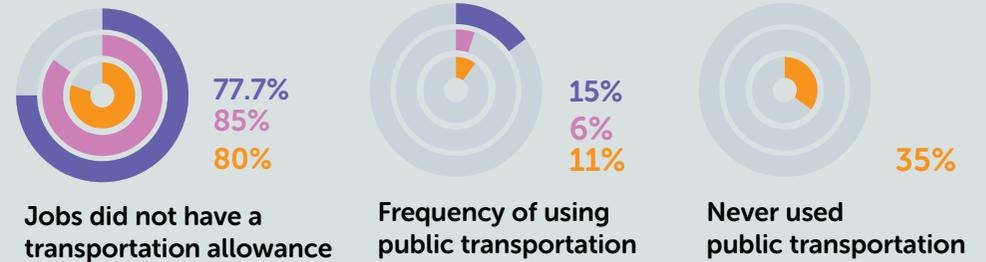


Recommendations to improve public transportation

- 14.0% Make public transportation cleaner
- 11% Improved punctuality
- 8% Safer and slower driving
- 11% Regulate bus schedule and have them come more frequently



Working respondents



Comparatively speaking, respondents' use of public transportation was low. In general, respondents reported using their own cars more than public transportation.

34% of all respondents said that they go shopping by car, **26%** of respondents used public transport (this includes buses, taxi, and taxi by smart applications).

Upper-class respondents were the most likely to use their cars to go shopping at a rate of **63.8%**.

52.7% of those that identify as below working-class said they went shopping on foot.

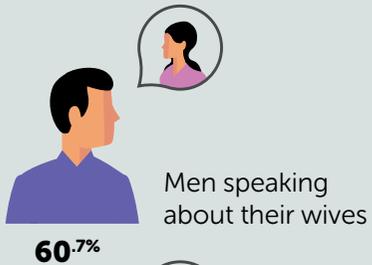
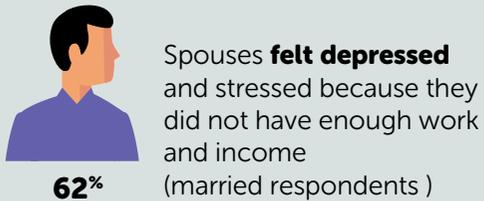
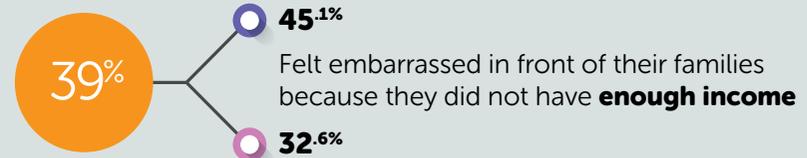
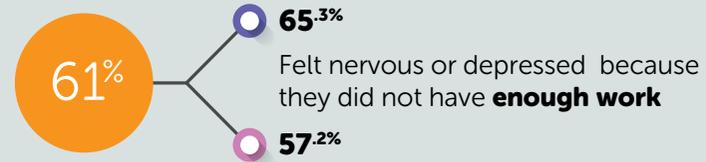
Both self-identified working-class and middle-class respondents reported using public transport for shopping at similar rates of **27%** and **25.9%** respectively.

38% of the respondents reported went to work using their car, highest in the self-identified middle-class (**49.7%**). Only **27%** of all respondents said they used public transport to get to their work.

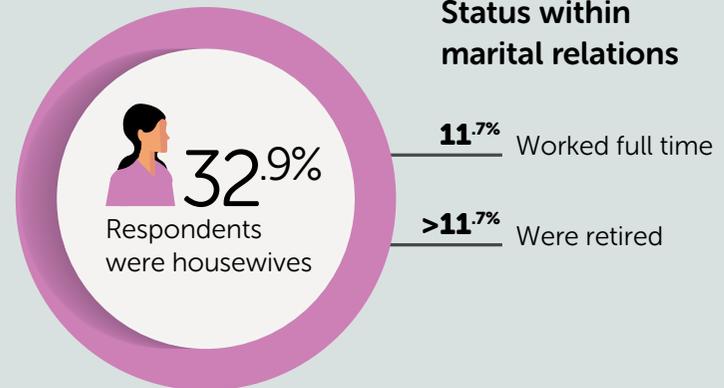
Employment, Unemployment and Work Conditions

Male
Female
Total

Felt insecure in their employment status



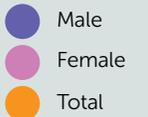
Lost their jobs during the Coronavirus pandemic



Work sector status



Employment, Unemployment and Work Conditions



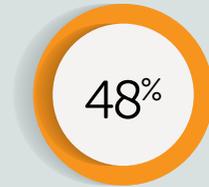
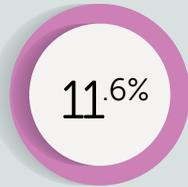
Social security



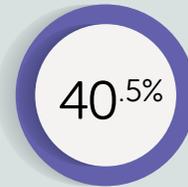
Were not registered with social security



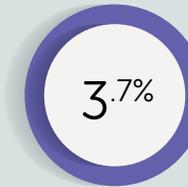
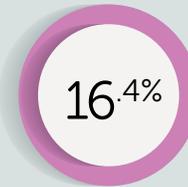
Retire to have some time for themselves



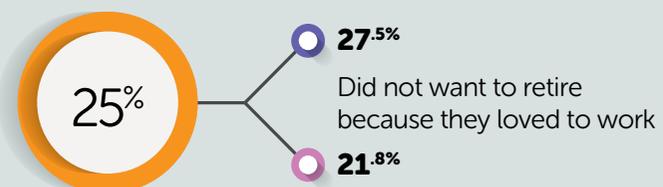
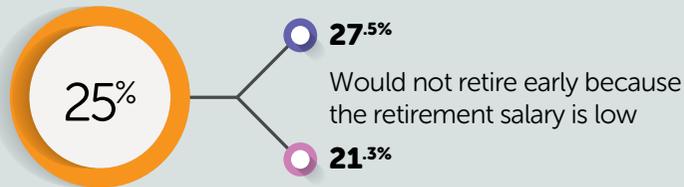
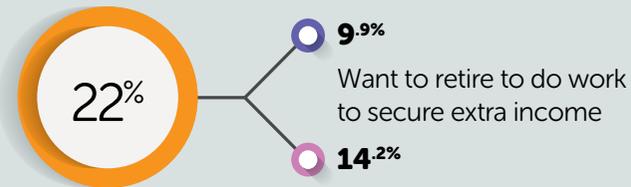
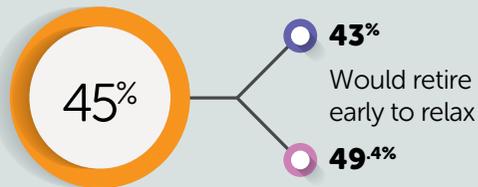
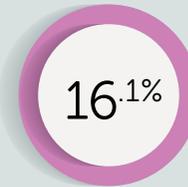
Choose to retire early if given the chance



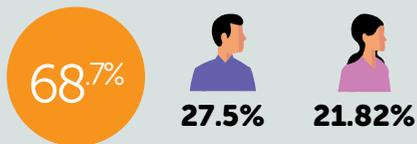
Registered with social security



Retired early to take care of children



Health insurance



Had some kind of health insurance



Had public insurance



Had insurance from the armed forces



Wanted to have health insurance

Family Spending

The ability to work is usually seen as being closely **connected to masculinity**, in return, loss of work is often seen as contributing to men feeling emasculated. In the survey, however, both women and men felt hard hit by the loss of work, or more generally the stress related to not having secure employment and job security.

Almost 8% of respondents **lost their jobs during the COVID-19 pandemic**.

The number of **respondents looking for work almost doubled** from 7.4% before the Corona lockdown to 13.7% by early July 2020.

Women respondents were more likely to **work in the public sector** and men in the **private sector**.

Not only are **social security registrations** extremely low in Jordan, but women are also the least likely to have social security, thus women are the least socially secure.

Men were three times as likely to **want to work after retirement** than women.

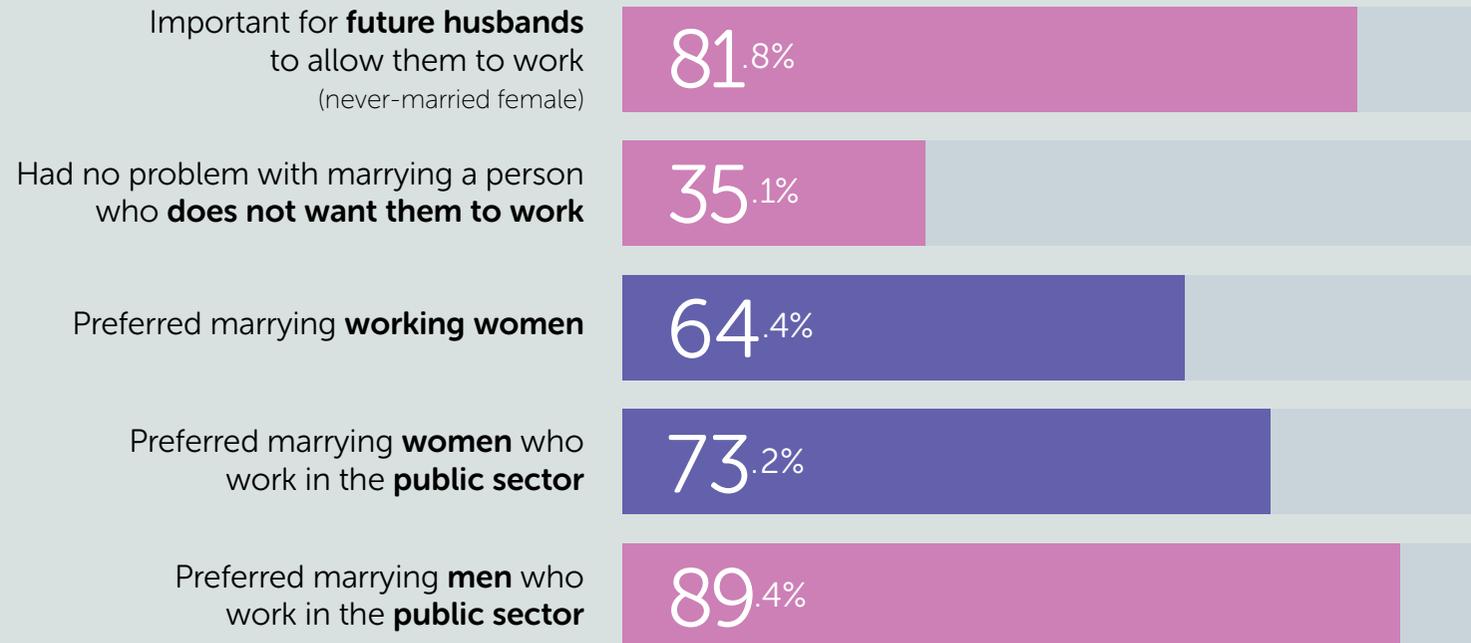
The second most important reason for women to retire early was to **take care of their children**. For men, childcare was not a big motivator for early retirement.

Men were slightly more likely than women to say that they **loved their jobs**.

Paradoxically, the higher rates of insured women are most likely due to two reasons, the first one is **positive discrimination** in favor of unmarried daughters and sisters the other one is **discrimination against working women** and their ability to insure their husbands. On the one hand, the law makes it easier to have insurance for female relatives, such as unmarried daughters and sisters, while it does not allow the insurance of unmarried sons past the age of eighteen. On the other hand, some laws discriminate against working women's abilities to insure their husbands.

Perceptions of Future Partners

● Male
● Female



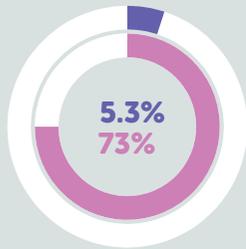
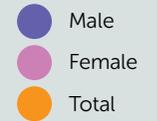
Generally, Jordanians prefer it when women work in the public sector

Public sector jobs are secure, there are fewer working hours and many benefits.

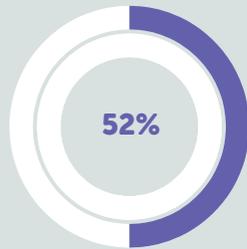
Public sector jobs are generally less well paid.

The high percentage of female respondents who prefer to marry public sector employees points to how important job security and work benefits are for respondents.

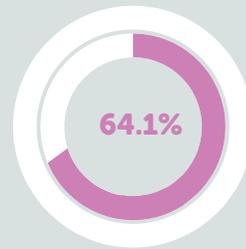
Division of Household Labor



They did most of the household work



Never did most of the housework



Never did most of the outside tasks like paying bills, taxes, or fixing cars



Paid for most of the outside home tasks like paying bills, taxes, or fixing cars



Satisfied with the division of labor inside the home



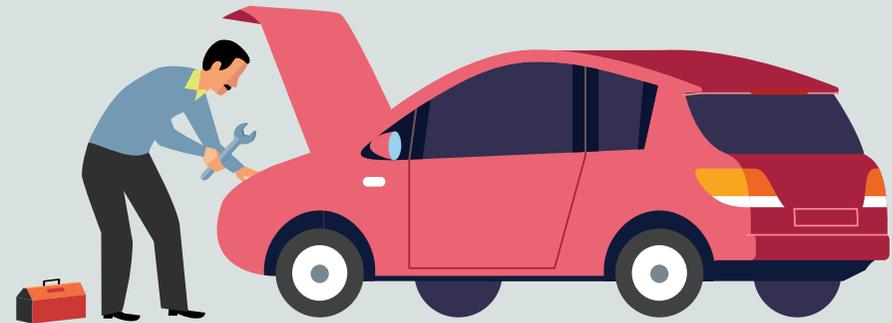
Satisfied to some extent with the division of household work



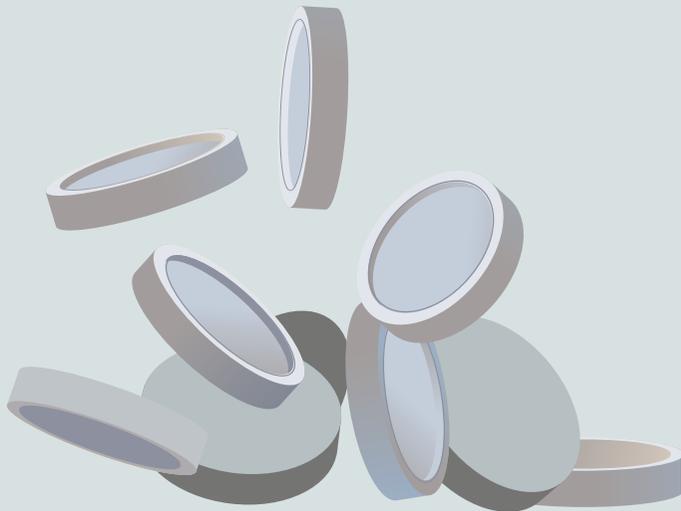
Spouses are satisfied with the division



Spouses are satisfied to some extent with the division of household work



When it came to the division of labor inside the home, most respondents seemed to conform to traditional gender roles with female respondents doing most of the housework, and men doing most of the fixing and purchases.



Business, Investment and Financial Services

- The current policy framework to promote economic empowerment of women is narrowly focused on flexible employment as a primary strategy for work-life balance, which threatens to further promote gender jobs segregation and deepen the gender wage gap.
- Jordanian banks have 28% of female(s) in their boards.
- In 2015 48.5% of microfinance loans of financial institutions were granted to females.
- The trend in the overall level of female allocations as a percentage of total public expenditures has seen an increase from 25.34% in 2017 to a forecasted 27.05% in 2021. In 2019, the average growth rate of public expenditures was 5% and the average growth rate of female allocations was 7%.

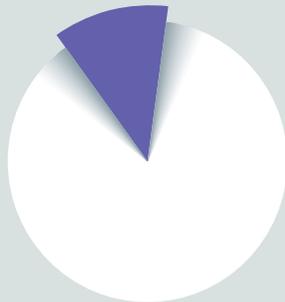
Household Relations

● Male
● Female



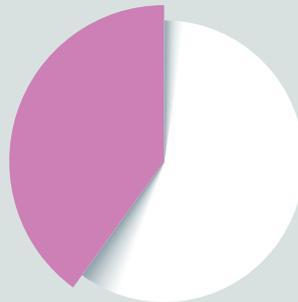
Child care responsibilities

16.4%

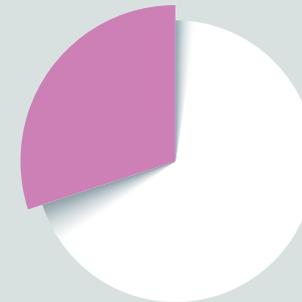


Physical disciplining and punishment of children

40.9%



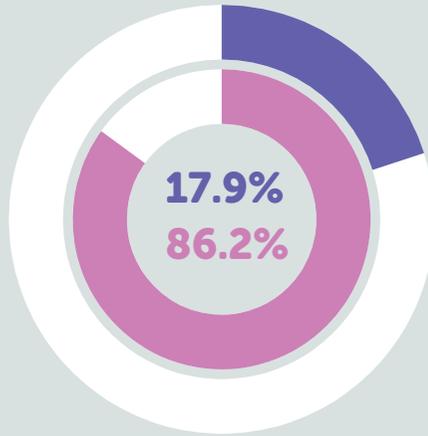
28.3%



Physically disciplined their children said they hit someone daily or often

Child Care Responsibilities

● Male
● Female



They took care of their children

(including feeding and looking after their children)

They were in charge of childcare

They shared the burden equally with their wives

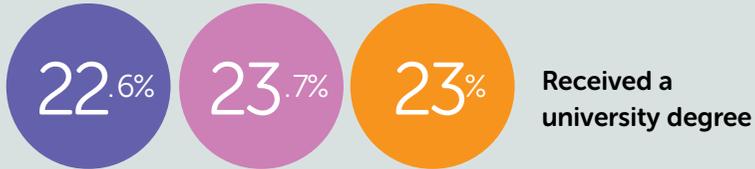
21.6%

Parenting activities

They played with their children or did various leisure time activities versus	19.6%	57.1%
Staying at home with children when they are sick	18.2%	86.1%
Drop off or pick up the children at school or daycare	24.7%	48.6%
Scold and discipline their children	24.1%	52.5%
Physical disciplining and punishment of children	16.4%	40.9%
They changed their children's diapers or clothes		75.2%
Who bathed their children		87.2%
Helped their children with homework		65.7%
They read to the child		61.1%

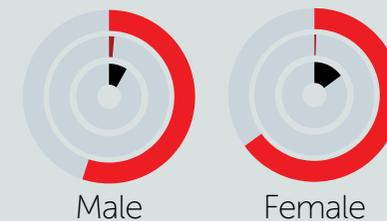
Higher Education

- Agree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Male
- Female
- Total



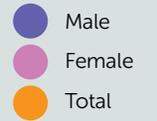
- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------------------|
| 19.7% | 12.6% | Financial reasons | 23% | Grades were not good enough |
| 23.1% | 1.5% | Needed to work | 20% | Financial reasons |
| 3.6% | 9.2% | Families do not like university education | 16.3% | Parents could not afford to pay tuition fees |
| | 5.6% | Family did not believe in educating women | 4.7% | Fees were too high |
| | 4.6% | Husbands had refused that they continue going to university | | |
| | 8.8% | Had to stop going to university because they got married | | |
| | 1.3% | Became pregnant | | |
| | 1.2% | No safe and guaranteed means of transportation | | |

Education fees



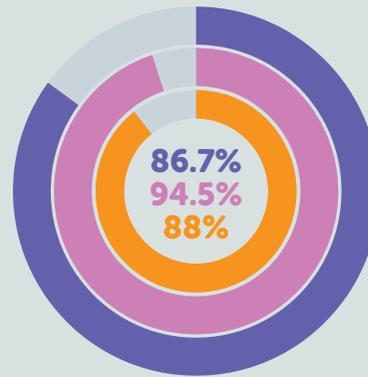
- Parents paid for their university education
- Got the Makruma scholarship
- Parents sold the land to enable their children to go to university

Work Conditions

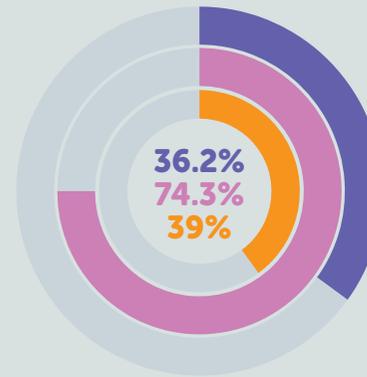


Superior ever asked them to do something at work that they did not agree with

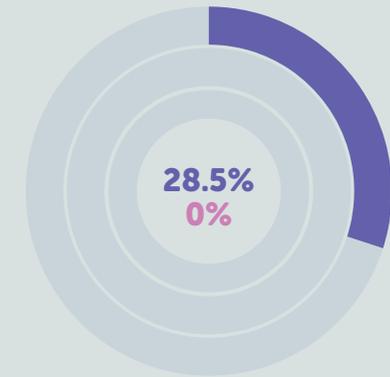
The right to clean and usable toilets is an essential aspect of dignified work



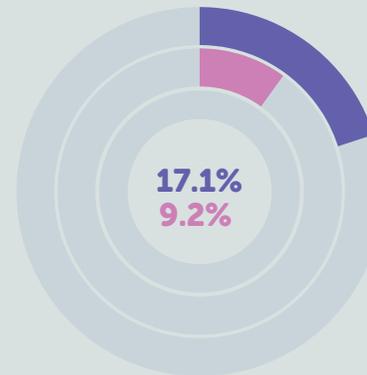
Were able to use the toilet during work



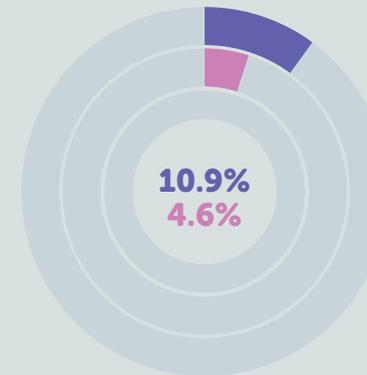
Prefer to use the toilet at home



The ability to use the restrooms inside mosques



Using public toilets



Simply going outside or in the nature

Work Conditions

Women were more likely to be asked than men by their superior to conduct **work they did not agree with**.

This experience was similar across the self-identified middle, working-classes (from **11.4-11.8%**), and those who said they had no income (below the working-class).

55.3% of those who were asked to do something at work they didn't agree with ended up doing it.

100% of upper-class respondents said that they had never been asked to do anything they did not agree with by their superior.

Women are more likely than men to be asked to perform **additional tasks for which they are not financially compensated**, and which do not fit in within their job description.

Self-identified **upper-class women are far less likely to be asked** and to agree to do this.

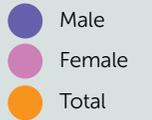
Therefore, it is mostly working-class and middle-class women who are asked **to perform extra work** without financial compensation.

This confirms what studies have already shown about **exploitation** and about **class privilege** and gender privilege protects employees from being asked to perform tasks that are not part of their job description.

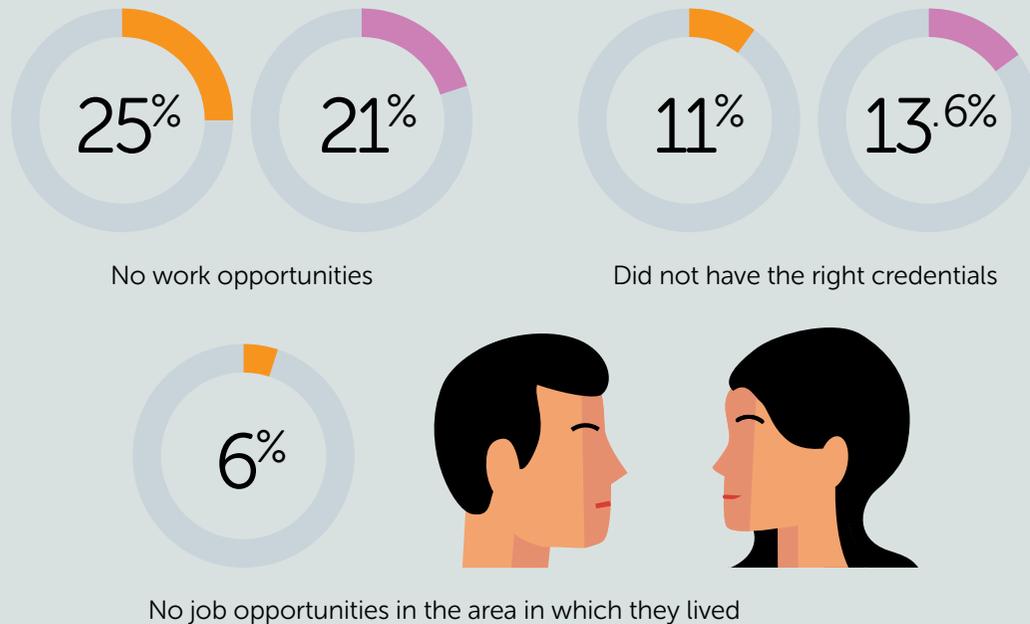
The **most vulnerable social groups** are also those who are most likely to be exploited at the workplace.

Female respondents were **8%** more likely to say that they could use the restrooms at work.

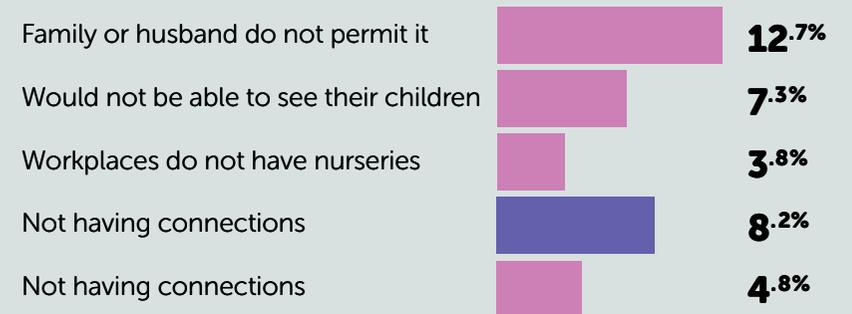
Unemployment



Reasons for which respondents were unemployed



Familial approval



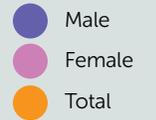
The responses on unemployment change drastically if we **consider self-identified classes** because of the kind of objections from familial background.

While **26.8%** of self-identified working-class people said that they did not work because there are **no work opportunities**, only **13.6%** of upper-class respondents gave this answer.

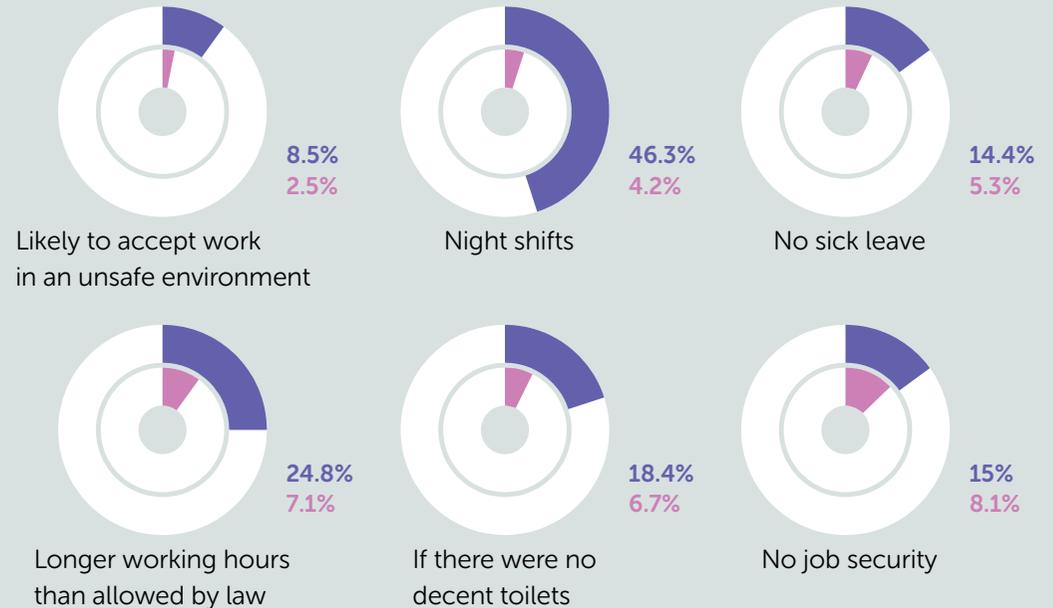
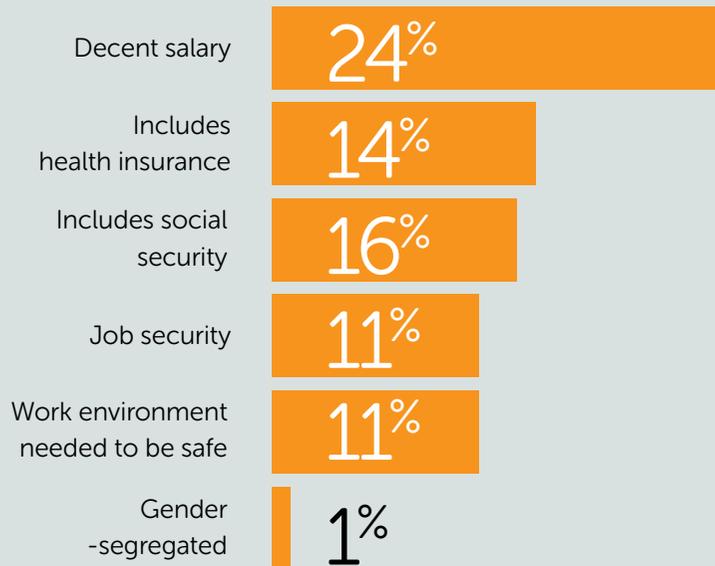
Class identification did not result in more progressive views of working women. **8.8%** of self-identified upper-class respondents vs. **7.6%** of working-class respondents said they did not work because their **family/husband refused that they work**.

However, self-identified upper upper-class respondents were more likely not to work because **nurseries were not available** (**11.2%**, the second most important reasons upper upper-class respondents gave for not working) or they would not be able to see their children (**8.1%**).

Dignified Work



What dignified work meant to them



Safety, not working at night, **having sick leaves**, working regular and the legislated number of working hours, decent toilet facilities, and **job security** are therefore the main elements of decent work that female respondents highlighted. Women respondents were more likely than male respondents to work for less than the minimum wage (**JD 220**), with **16.4%** of women vs. **11.2%** of men agreeing to do so.

In conclusion, **women** were more likely to be concerned with the **work conditions at the workplace**, working hours, and the ability to take sick leaves. **Men**, on the other hand, regarded dignified work mostly in terms of **financial benefits**, job security, and receiving social security.

Women Participation in Lebanon



2018-2019

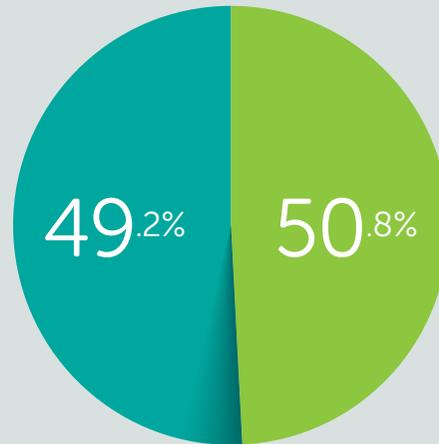
Lebanese Parliamentary Elections

Men
Women

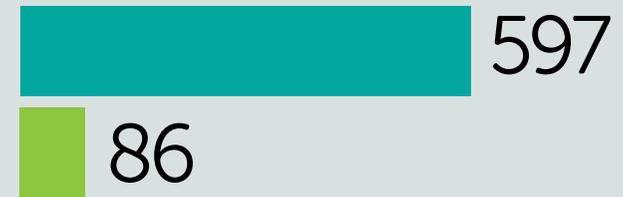
These secondary data sets were collated by Hivos Gender Expert Team, as part of the methodology as per available data in Lebanon.

Registered voters in 2018

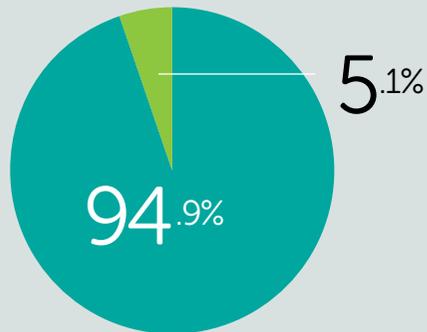
Total registered voters 3,746,483



Registered candidates

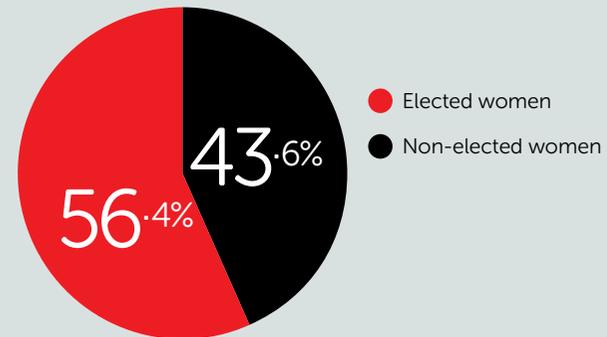


Results from a gender perspective



Preferential votes disaggregated by sex

Total of preferential votes is 1,759,068



Distribution of votes for women candidates

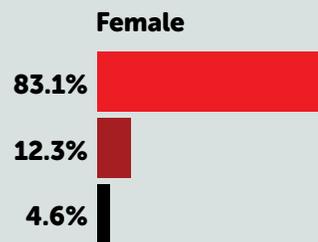
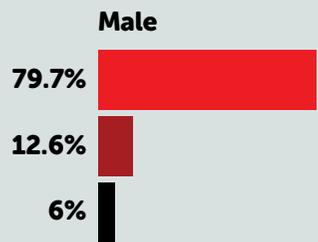
Total of votes for women candidates 89,447

Women Participation in Parliamentary Elections

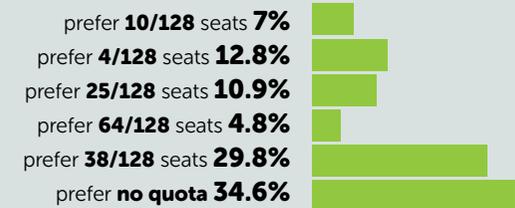
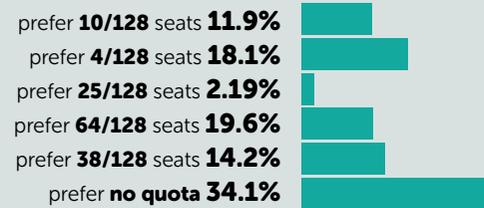
- Agree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Male
- Female



Overall, women and men considered women to be underrepresented in the Lebanese political sphere



How many seats should be allocated to women in the parliament?



If two equally qualified candidates, one man and one woman, are running for parliamentary elections in Lebanon, who would you vote for?



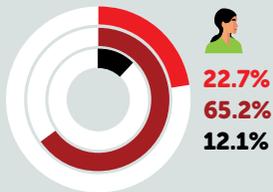
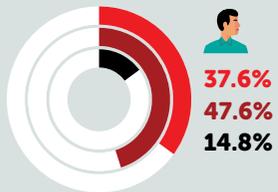
Women Participation in Parliamentary Elections



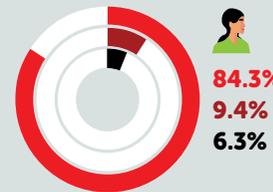
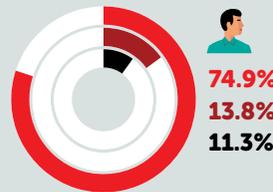
What is the biggest challenge that hinders women's participation in political life in Lebanon?



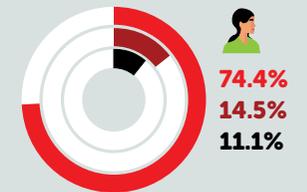
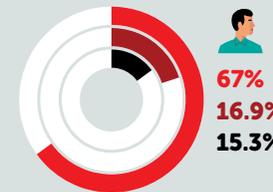
If a woman holds **public office**, it will interfere with her familial duties



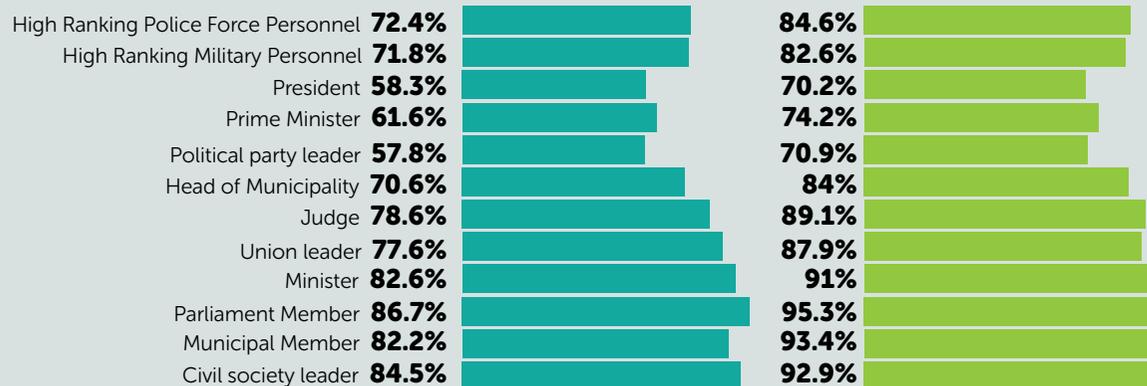
I **support women** being assigned to leadership roles in political parties



I find political parties **gender-biased** in assigning important political roles in Lebanon



Respondents supporting women occupying leadership positions in the public sphere



Women Participation in Parliamentary Elections

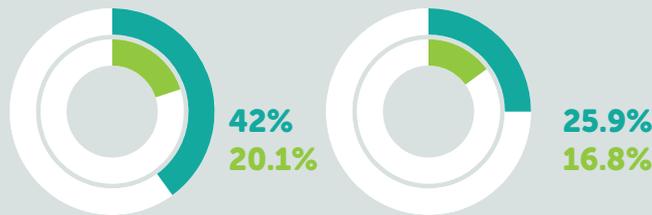
- Agree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Male
- Female

Negative stereotypes towards women's capacities to engage in the public sphere



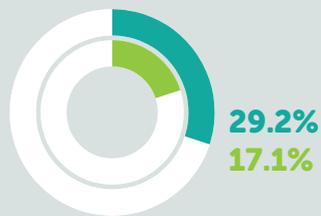
Women give up more easily than men

Women are moody and cannot commit to a definitive course of action



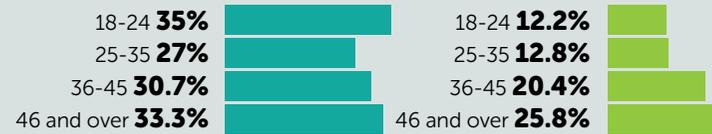
Women are naturally fearful

Women are generally indecisive

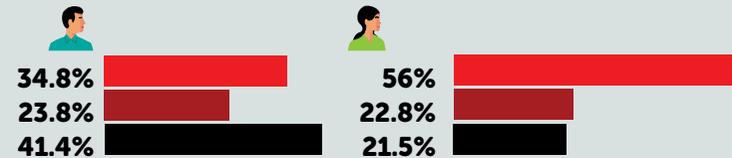


Women are more submissive than men

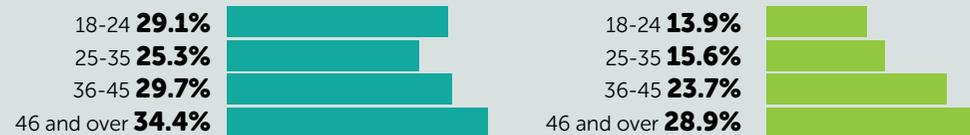
Respondents indicating that male politicians are better than female politicians at debating and being confrontational, by gender and age



Women are more serious about their work than men are



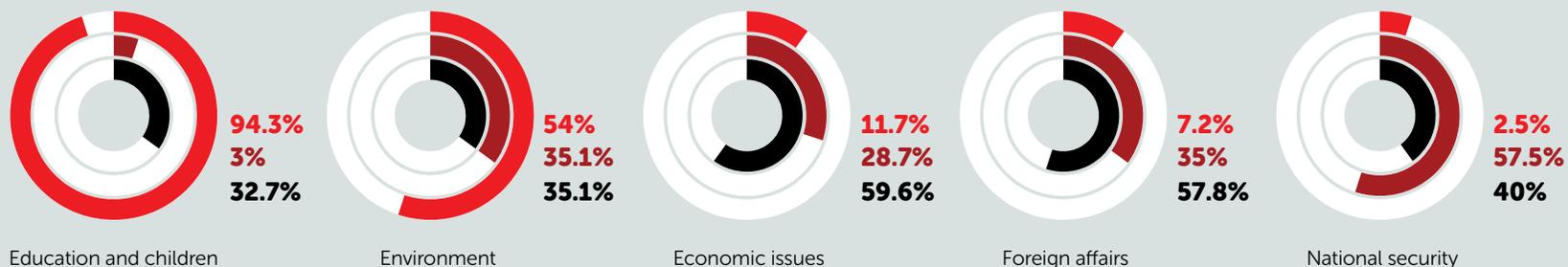
Male politicians are more politically savvy than female politicians



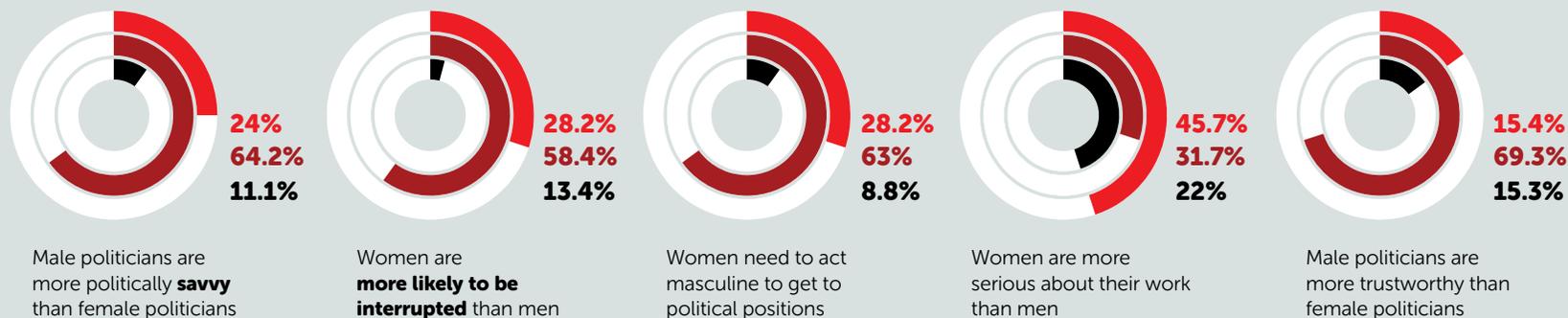
Women Participation in Parliamentary Elections

● Agree
 ● Disagree
 ● Neutral

Responses to perceptions of women's ability to work on specific political files:
 Who is more qualified for handle these issues, men, women or gender doesn't matter



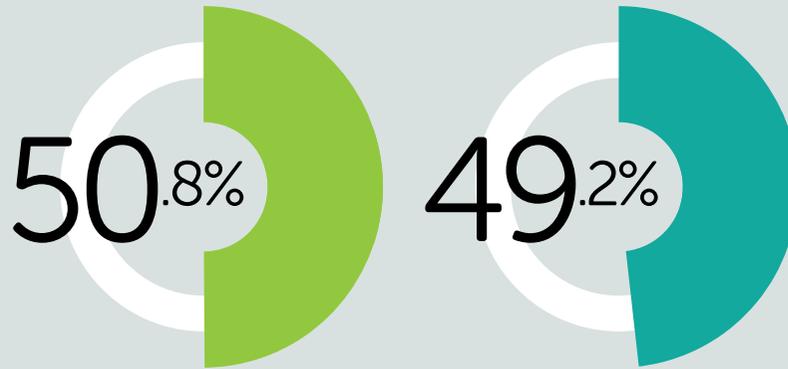
Responses to statements on perceptions of female politicians - not disaggregated



Women Participation in Parliamentary Elections

● Male
● Female

Registered Voters in 2018 (total registered voters is: 3,746,483)



Registered Candidates in 2018

597
86

Results in 2018

Preferential votes disaggregated by sex
(total of preferential votes is 1,759,068)



Distribution of votes for women candidates
(total of votes for women candidates: 89,447)



Women Participation in Lebanon

- Women in Lebanon continue to face various challenges and discrimination in accessing their rights. The absence of secular laws creates a gap in legal justice and equality whereby sectarianism takes control over personal status laws failing to treat all citizens equally, especially women. For this reason, Lebanese women still face discrimination and gender violation.

The underrepresentation of Lebanese women in politics and key positions remains a serious obstacle to a healthy democracy. Women are active in society, at all levels and in both sectors, yet their participation in politics and key positions remains absent due to unequal access of power.

In 1953, Lebanon became one of the first countries in the Arab region to accord women equal rights to participate fully in politics.

Lebanon also ratified the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in 1996 and in the late 1990s, Lebanon adopted gender mainstreaming in the collection and analysis of gender statistics.

The Lebanese Constitution promulgated in 1926 articulates

the principle of equality among all citizens and does not entail any discrimination against women. Article 7 of the Constitution states that all Lebanese citizens are equal before the law, enjoy equal civil and political rights, and bear equal obligations and duties without any differences between them.

Source: Gender Barometer Desk Review

- Women gained the right to vote and stand for election in 1952. The first time a woman was appointed to parliament was in 1963. Recently women occupied 6 (2 women parliamentarians resigned after the October 17th uprising) out of the 128 seats in the parliament (3%), and the last cabinet in 2020 appointed 6 women in ministerial positions.

Source: HIVOS – The History of Women Movement in Lebanon

- According to the 2015 Global Human Development Report, Lebanon ranked 78/188 on the gender inequality index indicating that Lebanon still suffers from a wide gender gap and serious difficulties still persist in accessing opportunities at the decision-making, political, economic, and social levels.

The underrepresentation of women is still flagrant in both public and political life (in political parties and labor unions).

Source: SDGs 10, Global Compact

- Lebanon has consistently ranked at the bottom of the rankings in relation to parliamentary representation of women in the Middle East in 2017.

Civil society and many NGOs working in the field of women empowerment, with the support of the Ministry for Women's Affairs and the National Commission for Lebanese Women attempted to advance a draft electoral law with a suggested 30% quota for women in parliamentary seats, and unfortunately this proposition was not welcomed by politicians.

The World Economic Forum reported in its Global Gender Gap Index report (released at the end of 2019) that Lebanon's rank moved from 140th (out of 147 countries) to 145th (out of 153 countries) in the gender gap.

Source: Global Gender Gap Report 2019, World Economic Forum, January 2020

- The overall performance of Lebanon remains largely unchanged, despite

Lebanon's minimal progress on the ratio of women in parliament.

The chart of 'Global Fact about Inequality' according to UN Global Network Lebanon shows how little Lebanon is reporting on inequalities.

The Lebanese government did not provide any valuable information concerning inequalities to be able to assess its position in the world list. Thus, Lebanon is almost at the end of the list and any efforts could not be measured.

Source: UN Global Compact Network Lebanon

- The World Bank provides data for Lebanon from 1990 to 2018. The average value for Lebanon during that period was 21.01% with a minimum of 19.04% in 1990 and a maximum of 23.26% in 2018.

Source: The Global Economy

- Despite the significant awareness of women's political participation in the Arab regions, the average regional proportion of women in the parliament remains below the global average, with only 19% of female representation.

Source: ESCWA, Women's Political Representation in the Arab Region, 2017

- Lebanon conceptualizes women's political participation in its modern image, but still proves to be a country that lacks the consistency and inclusivity of women's representation. Based on previous elections, women's integration in the parliament appeared mainly as the result of nepotism.

Women in Lebanon are rarely included in the political decision-making process due to the socio-cultural beliefs and norms of patriarchal societies that place different expectations on women and men regarding their social and economic contributions.

Lebanon witnessed a remarkable increase in the number of registered women candidates in the elections from 2009 to 2018. The former elections had 12 women registered candidates, only 6 were elected. In 2018, the number rose to 86 registered candidates, also only 6 were elected. This sheds light on the fact that the number of registered candidates can be irrelevant to the number elected.

Source: UN Women

- Women candidates were not granted equal opportunities as men during the elections. Regarding the limited TV access appearances that weren't accorded due to the interference of some men in power, women turned to their social media pages, to make themselves heard and promote their electoral campaigns. However, the most suggested opportunity in studies is the quota's advocacy and endorsement.

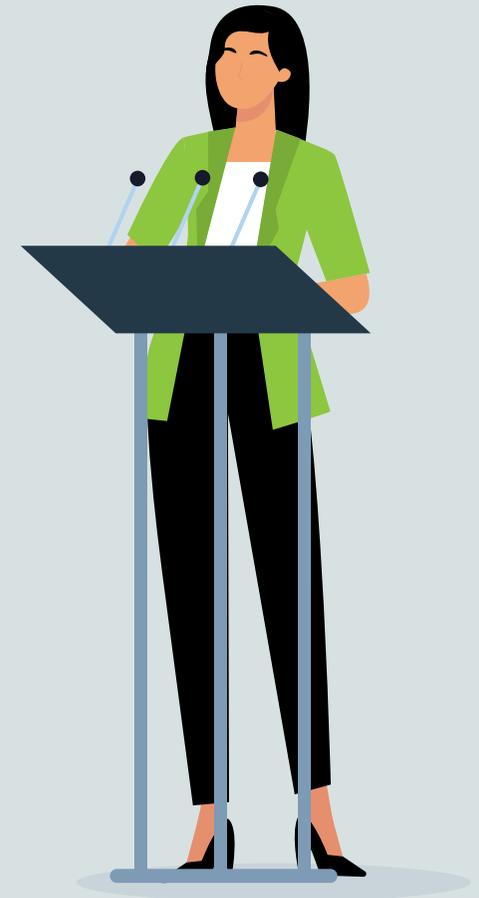
Only 42.57% of the sample of women voted during the last parliamentary elections in May 2018, with North Lebanon witnessing the highest percentage (67.5%) of women who voted. Only 19% of women surveyed would consider running for parliamentary elections and as well findings show a low percentage of women voters surveyed voted for a woman in the municipal elections (40%). When women were asked if they support equal participation of women and men in government, the majority responded yes (95%).

Women were asked for reasons behind the low participation of women in the government: less

support by their political parties (32%) and they faced gender discrimination (30%). Another group of respondents (15%) stated women have to do more to prove themselves than men in order to reach ministerial positions.

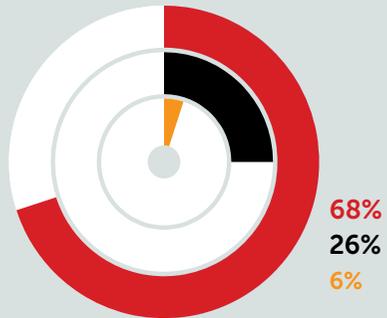
Low percentage of women (38%) believes that the existing law is equitable for Lebanese women in the parliamentary elections and 64% of women reported knowing about the quota system and favoring it. In 2017, the Lebanese parliament amended the existing municipal law, clause 2 /article 25 and gave the permission to married women to run for municipal and mayoral election in their hometown. However, despite the massive change that this amendment has brought to the rights of Lebanese women, only 28% of the respondents have knowledge about it.

Source: Gender Barometer Lebanon

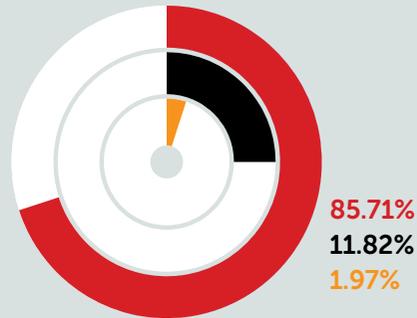


Media Campaigns

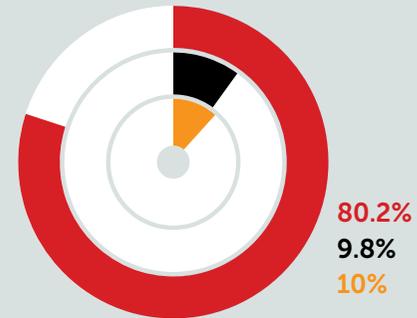
● Yes ● No ● Don't know



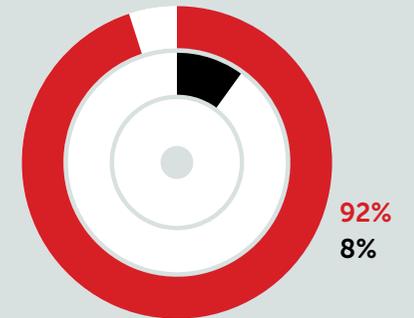
Women who think **men have more significant media access** than women



Women who think **female candidates are subject of unethical journalism** than their male counterparts



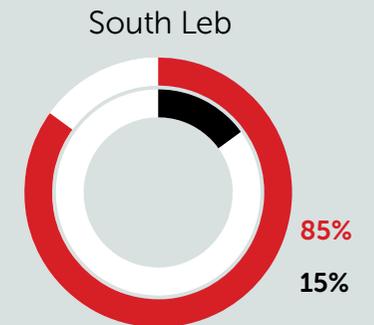
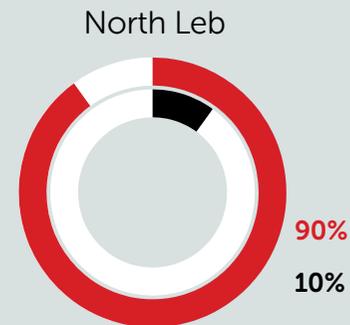
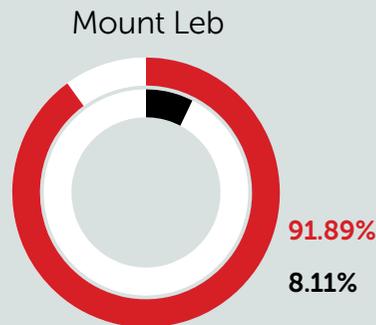
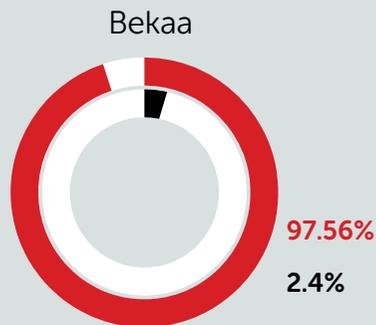
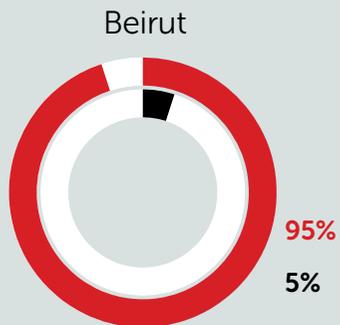
Women who think **women candidates should improve promoting their electoral agendas**



Women who **voted for a woman candidate because of her campaigns**

● Yes ● No

Women who **voted for a women because of her campaign by region**



Media Campaigns

While billboards, and street calls are still significant in the election processes, the way media cumulatively represents women, and perceives women, is a general indicator to equality of opportunity.

During data collection, surveyors noticed that from those who answered that they have voted for women candidates because of their campaigns, there was an extent of indefinite and unsureness, and this is due to the historical patterns of voter agendas away from advertisement and the new grounds of the fight to competency.

The cycles of nepotism and family relations have always overpowered the democratic process of representatives. Then, again some comments made it a point that they have changed their previous dispositions in favor of competence

When women were asked if they were to vote for a woman based on her media campaigns, most women answered that it was not a matter of women advertising, it is about the whole democratic process that has proven to be nothing but a series of nepotism and clientelist relations. The majority of participants have responded that with the competence and ability to lead, a woman's agenda serves as her weapon to undergo the long-lived elites.

Women in the Bekaa reported that the whole process is vindictive of tribes and clans and no real democracy is practiced.

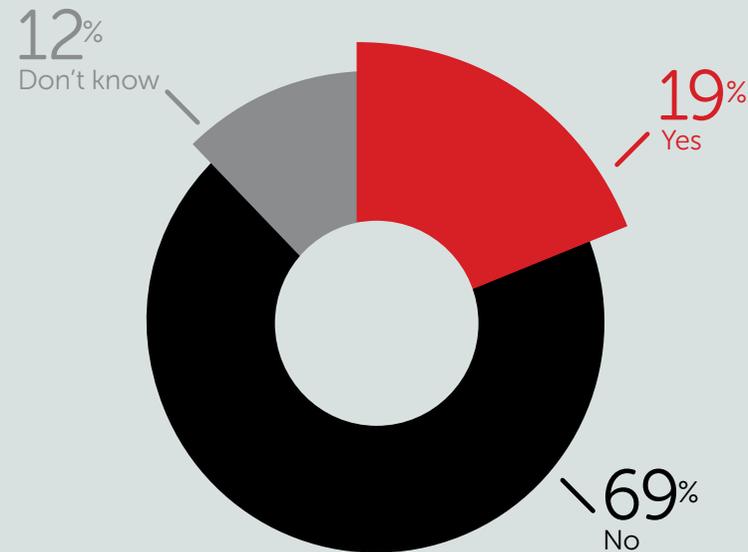
The question of if men have more significant media access that women came as a dilemma to respondents. Only when respondents were introspective about the reality of Media did they realize how in a majority, there is an unconscious inception of men within power.

There is a responsibility on Media outlets as well as on candidates in the fight of gender equality, and one does not complement the other, rather it creates it.

Women's participation in parliamentary elections

Sample size
201 Lebanese women

Beirut 40
Bekaa 41
Mount Leb 40
North Leb 40
South Leb 40



**Women who would consider
running for parliamentary elections**

This figure portrays that a very low percentage (17%) of women who voted for a woman would actually consider running for parliamentary elections.

The rest 75% of women who wouldn't consider running for parliamentary elections, even if they voted for a woman; referred to their lack of interest as a main reason, and some other due to the financial barriers.

A large number of the surveyed participants believe that women aren't well represented by parliamentary candidates. They also agree that it is challenging for a woman to run for parliamentary elections and finally, disagree that men are more trustworthy than women when it comes to parliamentary positions.

North Lebanon witnessed the highest percentage of 67.5% of women who voted during the parliamentary elections; whereas South Lebanon shows to be the region that depicts the lowest percentage of voting with 41.03%.

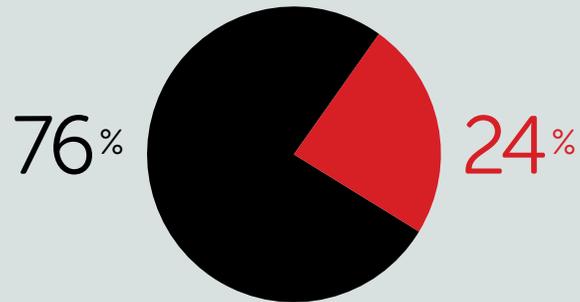
Municipal Elections

Sample size
201 Lebanese women

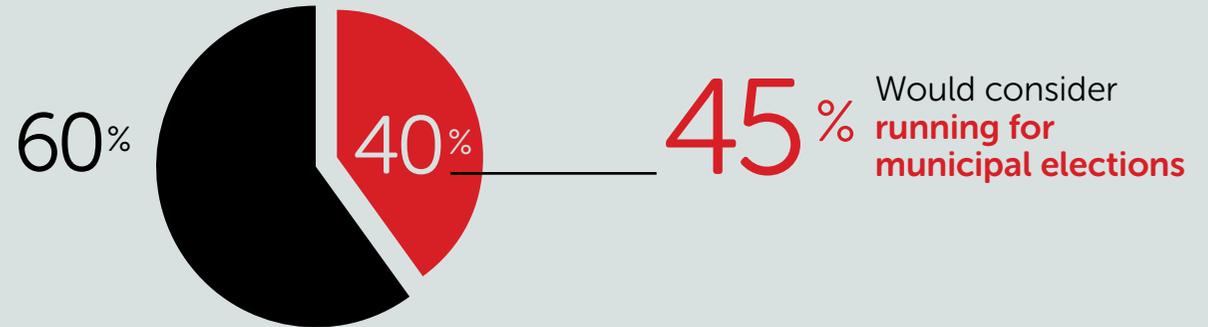
● Yes
● No

Beirut 40
Bekaa 41
Mount Leb 40
North Leb 40
South Leb 40

Proportion of women who considered running for **municipal elections**



Percentage of women who voted for a woman in the **municipal elections**



Despite equal percentages of men and women voters in the municipal elections, the percentages of women candidates and winners remain very low and are considered one of the lowest in the Arab region.

Reasons behind the low representation of women in municipal positions include the dominant patriarchal culture in the country which enforces the power of men over women and this is prevailing in the personal status laws.

The main drive to electing women to these positions is the family connections to leading political people in the country.

The reported motivation behind women running for municipal elections was to help their community and be the change.

Women who have not considered running for municipal elections, their main barriers were either money or societal and some women were not interested in it.

The majority of the respondents agree that it is challenging for a woman to run for municipal elections, disagree that women are well represented by municipal candidates and disagree that men are more trustworthy than women for municipal positions.

In comparison to the parliamentary elections, a similar percentage (43%) have reported voting in the parliamentary and municipal elections and this is also the case for voting for a woman in both elections (32% and 40% for parliamentary and municipal elections respectively).

The similarity was also portrayed when women were asked whether they would consider running for these elections with a slightly higher percentage for municipalities (24%) compared to parliamentary (20%)

Ministerial Positions

Sample size
201 Lebanese women

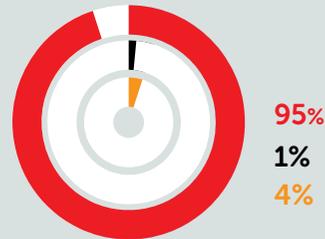
Beirut 40
Bekaa 41
Mount Leb 40
North Leb 40
South Leb 40

● Yes
● No
● Not necessary

Practice



Proportion of **population who support women as ministers**



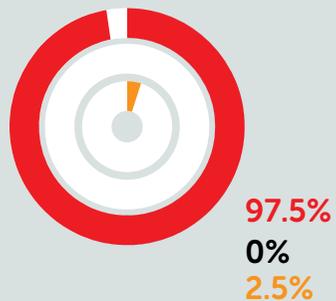
Proportion of population who support **equal representation in government**



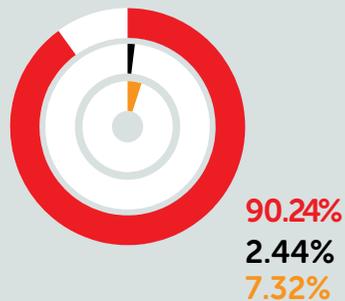
Percentage of women who would support a **woman as prime minister**

Women who support **equal participation of men and women in government**

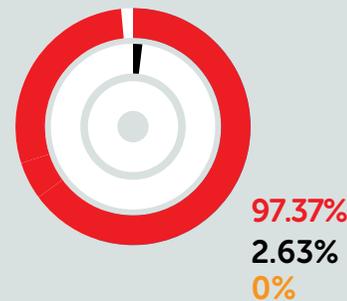
Beirut



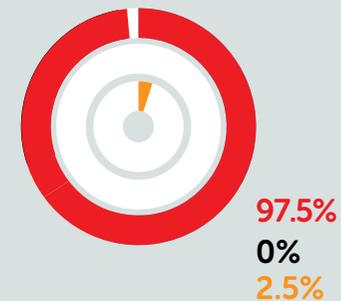
Bekaa



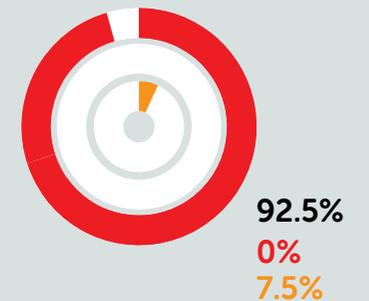
Mount Leb



North Leb



South Leb



In this survey women were asked to list how many females ministers they think were appointed in the previous cabinet to understand whether they are informed of such progress of women representation in the government. Only 45% of respondents were familiar with the six women ministers in the cabinet while 55% supposed that they were less than 6 females.

Ministerial Positions

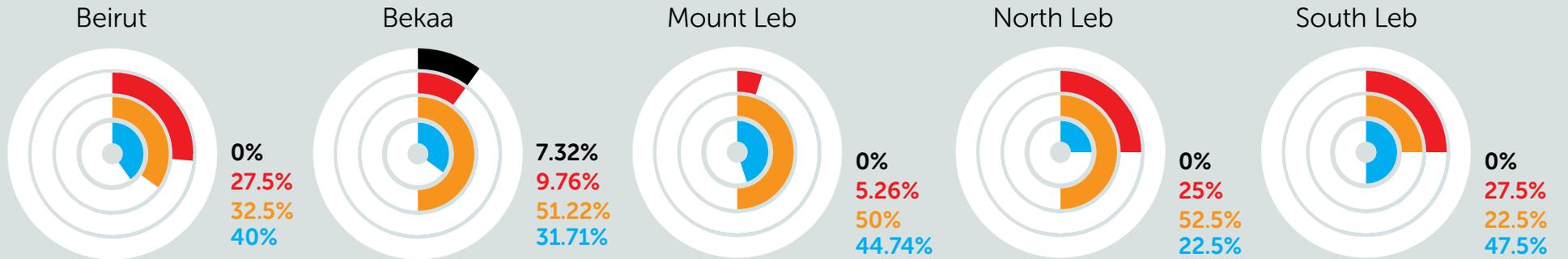
Sample size
201 Lebanese women

Beirut 40
Bekaa 41
Mount Leb 40
North Leb 40
South Leb 40

- Less
- Maybe
- More
- Same

Perception

Women who believe they are as **effective as men in ministerial positions**



Why respondents **believe women have less access to participation in government**

Women are **less supported** by their political parties



Women face **gender discrimination**



Women have to **do more to prove themselves than men**



Family responsibilities do not leave time



Women are **not engaged** in politics



Women have **less experience** in running this position



Women are **not tough enough** for this position

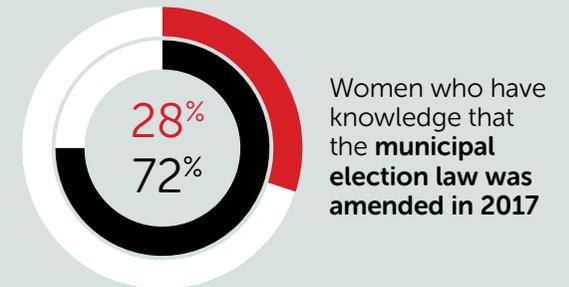
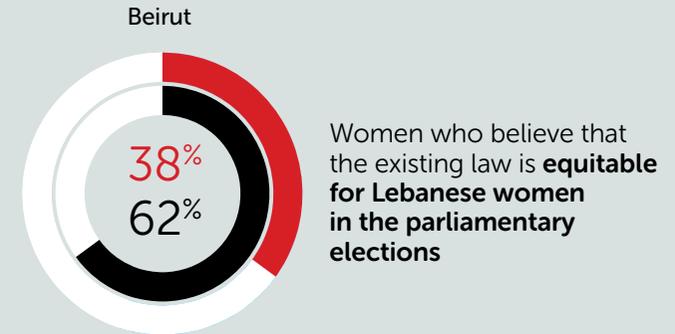
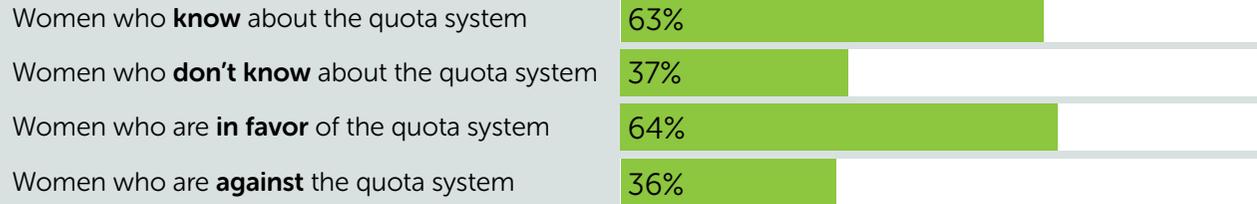


Don't know

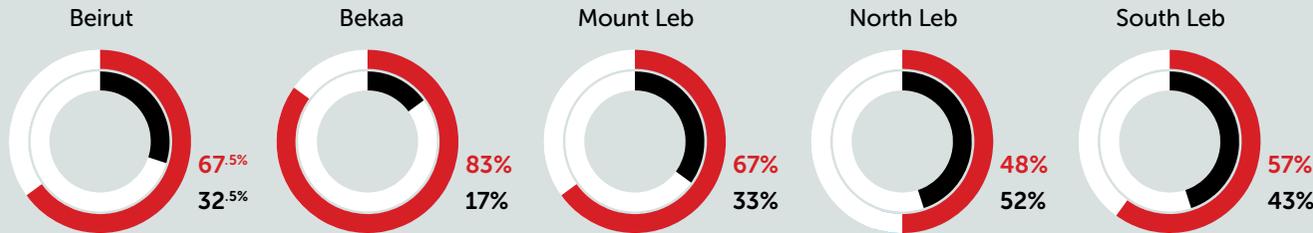


Lebanese Laws

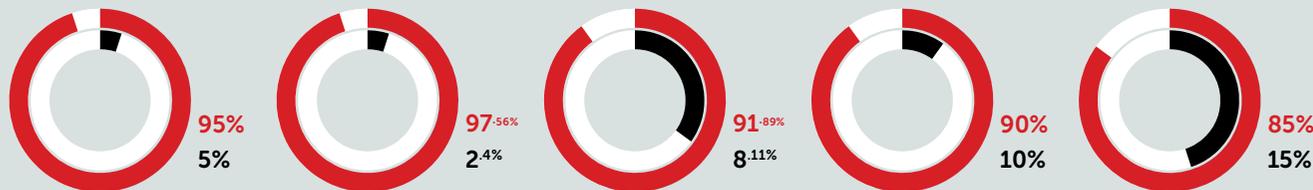
● Yes
● No



Women who have knowledge about **the amendment of the municipal law**



Women in favor of **the quota system**



Lebanese Laws

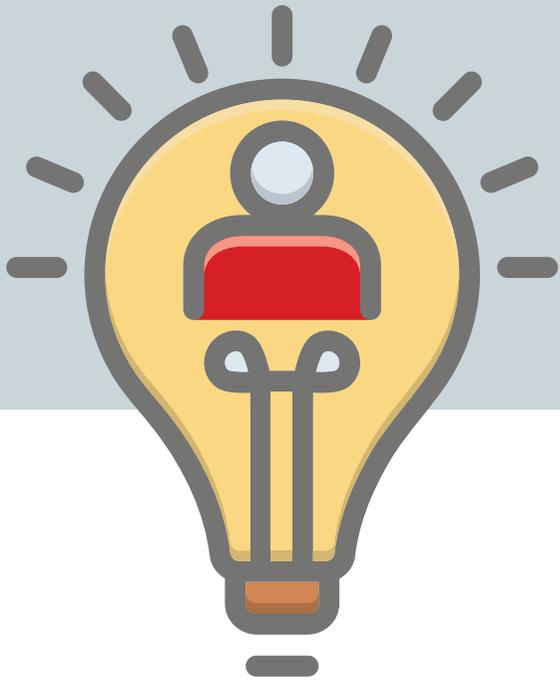
Women in Lebanon are still very far from participating in political life and decision-making caused by the absence of laws that can reserve seats for her in the parliamentary and municipal elections.

When women were asked if they believe that the existing law is equitable for Lebanese women in the parliamentary election, only 38% of the respondents were positive about it.

62% of women believe that the existing law is inequitable for different reasons such as, it is equitable theoretically but difficult practically; It allows for the same people to come to power, and thus does not allow for women to reach such positions and she does not have the legal power to change.

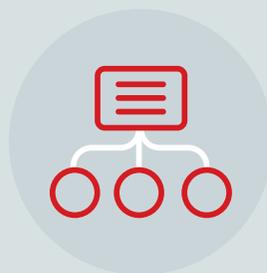
It is important to shed light on the idea that none of the interviewed women mentioned that the existing law is challenging in itself and is a barrier for women to reach the parliament. This shows that the respondents are not very knowledgeable when it comes to this law

The above figure shows that in Beqaa, the number of women who reported to be in favor of the quota system gave a high percentage of 83%. This can be an indicator that the women who live in Beqaa are seeking for change from the traditional political and sectarian cycle that they are living in.



Conclusions & Recommendations

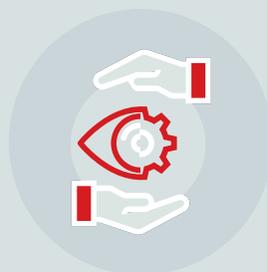
Jordan



Lessons Learned – Methodology

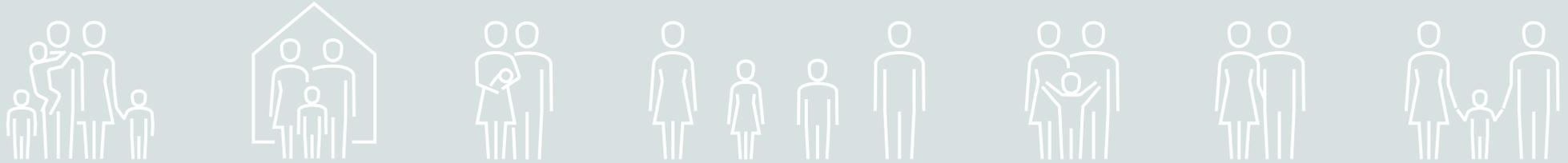
The extremely rich data collected is definitely open for much more analysis but one of the lessons learned acquired is that to truly be able to analyze and understand many of the findings further qualitative research is necessary. Using a mixed-methods approach in which quantitative work is supplemented with qualitative research would help clarify many of the trends that emerged in the research. Following the example of IMAGES (International Men's and Gender Equality Survey, 2017) in the future would help shed more light on the reasons, motivations that lead respondents to act in certain ways. It would also enable the Gender Barometer to include the voices of research participants.

While the consultative process implemented was important to ensure that the concerns and priorities of academics, practitioners, and activists were addressed, it also meant that the questionnaire ended up being very long that is exhausting for fieldworkers and respondents. It can lead to questions not being answered properly while covering multiple topics. Thus, focusing on one topic or thematic area in the future round of Gender Barometer would enable more in-depth analysis. As a result, their latest barometer focused on reproductive and sexual health (Morna, Rama, and Chigorimbo, 2019).



Perception vs. Practices

The analysis of one stand quantitative data is very important but to read the attitudes of the public against their practices is as well essential to get a fuller vision of whether and how perceptions play out in reality.



Understanding Family Lives and Gender Roles

- Memories of childhood violence are therefore not only gendered but also determined by class. Working-class men and below working-class men are the most likely to have experienced violence against them as boys. It is important to keep the intersectionality of respondents in mind to avoid making simplistic generalizations.
- Remembering violence against mothers was gendered. Female respondents were more likely to remember seeing their mothers being insulted, belittled, or humiliated at a rate of 17.4% compared to 12.8% of male respondents. In terms of self-identified class, working-class respondents were most likely to remember their mothers being insulted or humiliated at a rate of 9.4%. As is the case with experiencing violence themselves, memories of mothers being exposed to violence are also class-based and gendered.
- When we asked unmarried respondents about what they thought was important for them in marriage, female respondents cared mostly about being able to work after getting married and marrying someone who is not married already, and the overwhelming majority of women 68.5% said they would not marry a foreigner due to gender based discrimination about the inability of women passing their nationality to their children.
- Overall, male respondents seemed to feel happier, more respected, and more supported than female respondents.
- Overall, men were more likely to make decisions in the household, not just about general household concerns, but also about their spouse's ability to work, leave the house, or even see her family. Female respondents confirmed that husbands were the primary decision-makers. However, female respondents were more likely than male respondents to say that the decision was taken jointly when male respondents said that they were the ones who made the decision. This is particularly alarming when it comes to decisions that only concern women, like women's ability to see their family or leave the house. Only 13.8% of women reported that it is their own decision, while 56.8% of female respondents said that their ability to leave the house and visit relatives is a joint decision. The survey requires more in-depth qualitative research to whether this is a fact, or whether women feel that it should be a joint decision, and results points to a perception that a woman's mobility and ability to see her parents is not a personal choice only, but rests on her husband's approval and permission.
- When it came to the division of labor inside the home, most respondents seemed to conform to traditional gender roles with female respondents doing most of the housework, and men doing most of the fixing and purchases.
- When it came to the contribution of wives to household expenses, however, there was a big gap in perception between what female respondents reported contributing to the household and what male respondents believed their wives contributed. This gap in perception is significant and requires further detailed qualitative research. A similar gap existed when men spoke about their contribution to child-rearing. It is interesting to note that in traditionally male tasks, men were less likely to acknowledge it when women contributed to the task. Likewise, in traditionally female tasks, women were less likely to acknowledge it when men contributed to the task.
- While women reported doing most childcare, they also said they mostly disciplined their children both verbally and physically. Female respondents are twice as likely to say they verbally and physically discipline their children than male respondents. This contrasts with participants' memories of mostly being disciplined by their fathers as children. This begs the questions of whether disciplining practices have changed or whether memories of fathers' disciplining are more pronounced.

Jordan: Economic Lives



The percentages of women and men who believed this, were almost identical in listing economic problems, namely poverty, unemployment and low salaries. It is important to note that female respondents did not list traditional women's issues as the main problems facing them. Violence against women was only mentioned by 2.7% of female respondents and legal discrimination between men and women was mentioned by 2.1% of our female sample.

In most women's rights literature, poverty and unemployment are usually not understood as the main problems facing women. Yet, Jordanian women clearly say that they are. The question that remains is how to understand poverty and unemployment as a woman's problem. What does this mean in terms of programming, and understanding women's issues? While legal discrimination and GBV were also listed as problems facing women, these problems were secondary when female respondents were asked about the problems facing them personally. This does not suggest stopping

working on GBV and equality before the law and gender justice. However, it does suggest that programming needs to seriously consider prioritizing economic problems like women's issues.

Besides, poverty and unemployment are problems which women share with members of their community, and wider Jordanian society. In development literature communities are often blamed for women's problems. Men in women's communities are often seen as the main culprits. While this might be the case in terms of domestic violence, such analysis ignores structural causes that marginalize women and men for certain communities alike. Solutions have to target these structures not to pit members of impoverished communities against each other.

Economic violence is not just an individual action against an individual woman. It is not about men inside women's families and their communities depriving women of income, it is more than this, economic violence is structural. Most Jordanians do

not have enough income to cover their monthly expenses. 58.4% of respondents said they needed more money monthly. The response rates were almost identical in terms of gender. This means that the majority of Jordanian women face monthly income insecurity, one aspect of economic violence. This is an important problem facing women, which should become a priority of women's rights activism and programming, and while women share problems with their communities, they also experience these problems differently. To engage in gender gender-sensitive programming these differences have to be understood and highlighted.

For women prioritized safety, not working at night, having sick leaves, having regular working hours, decent toilet facilities, and job security are the main elements of dignified work. Male respondents, on the other hand, regarded dignified work mostly in terms of financial benefits, job security, and receiving social security. True dignified work needs to take all these elements into account to meet the needs of all Jordanians, women, and men.

Jordan: Economic Lives

Reliable and safe public transportation is another way to ensure all people living in Jordan can reach their work. Respondents of both sexes suggested the following changes to improve public transportation:



- 1** increasing the cleanliness of public transportation
- 2** regulating the schedule and frequency of buses
- 3** punctually
- 4** safer and slower driving
- 5** stopping at designated stops
- 6** prohibiting smoking
- 7** covering more geographic areas in Jordan
- 8** providing a hotline for complaints



Anger was also more common among female respondents than males, these emotions are cause for concern, they also show the mental burden of economic distress. They do not just impact the women themselves, but also their children, especially boys in impoverished communities. To better the lives of women living in Jordan, it is important to understand how women connect to their communities and to target the structural problems which impoverish and marginalize these women and their communities.

Recommendations

Gender-Based Violence must be seen not only as domestic violence but also as structural economic violence against women, men, girls, and boys. When it comes to physical abuse boys from impoverished communities are especially vulnerable and should be protected and targeted by programs. More importantly programs need to address structures that impoverish members of marginalized communities.

Programming needs to work to ensure public schools are properly funded, have well trained and paid teachers, have proper facilities like toilets and heating to ensure children get the education they are entitled to. Not just a basic right but a gendered right.

Free university education, bursaries, and admission are based on merit is the best way to ensure that both qualified women and men can go to university. 23% of men reported not being able to go to university because they needed to work instead. This gendered disparity needs to be addressed as well as the social barriers some women face when going to university.

Women's rights activism and programming need to prioritize fighting gendered economic violence. In addition to responding to the main problem facing women on the ground. This type of work will also increase the legitimacy of women's right initiatives in the eyes of most women and men.

Working women and men should have the same right to provide their spouses with health insurance. Legislation should be unified across the private and public sectors to ensure all workers have a right to insurance.

Policies and labor law must take into consideration how Jordanians define dignified work. Men and women have different definitions. These gendered differences have to be considered when drafting policies and reforming laws. Women were more likely to be concerned with work conditions at the workplace, working hours and access to sick leave. Men regarded dignified work mostly in terms of financial benefits, job security and receiving social security. True dignified work needs to take all these elements into account to meet the needs of all Jordanians.

Lebanon

Conclusions

Gender-Based Violence



The analysis of the findings collected under the Gender Based Violence theme concluded to a set of needs for both women and men that are essential toward improving women empowerment, reducing GBV and tension and toward achieving gender equality.

Women need more awareness on their legal rights, protection mechanism, supporting mechanism to access affordable education, programs enhancing Economic Empowerment (jobs), and programs ensuring financial support. They also need mediation skills to maintain marital understanding, psychosocial support mechanisms, self-security, moral and medical support. Women's image in media should be improved against the commodification, they need to be more knowledgeable of the existing services against GBV. Amending the national laws toward ensuring equal rights and higher protection mechanisms and providing more shelters services.

Women Participation



The analysis of the findings collected under the Gender Based Violence theme concluded to a set of needs to increase women's participation in politics: a new voting system that frees women from the shackles of their political parties, adopting the 50/50 quota system, restructured educational enhancing and put in place narratives about women in power from a young age, the need for adopting a training program as cross regional and intersectional with regards to women, race, ethnicity, sect, etc. Adopting Temporary Special Measures toward decreasing candidacy fees for women within an interim phase to generally boost capability and interest for women candidates to vote. As well, it is essential to reassure the high need for the government's support to small businesses and women entrepreneurs in hopes of boosting them economically, which in turn affects independence politically. Issue does not pertain to women who have proven themselves as efficient and rightful to laws; the system ought to change from the inside. As long as nepotism is the mobilizer of the masses, men will remain at top of the power structure.

Recommendations

Mental Health

- Online mental health sessions at a reduced price as the main barrier to access was their high cost.
- Normalization of visiting psychologists where many respondents expressed this was still a stigma.
- Fund more programs that include awareness on mental health specifically on specialized areas with the aim to promote healthy social, emotional and behavioral development along with comprehensive support and services.

Internal Security Forces (ISF)

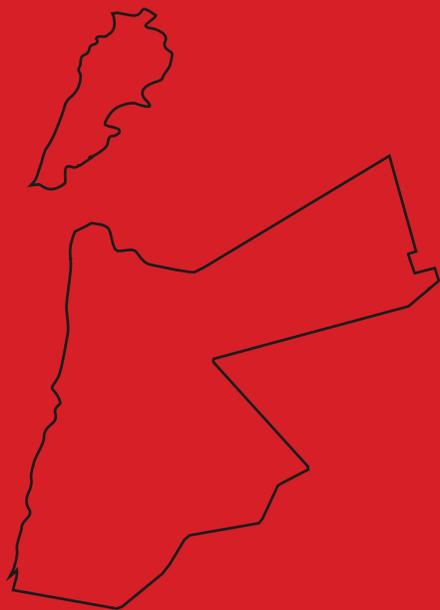
- Introduce ISF hotline to all women in Lebanon using different platforms: social media, SMS, billboards.
- Create a complaint and monitoring system, to know its weaknesses and solve them.
- Collaboration between ISF hotline and CSO helplines, to ensure full protection of domestic violence victims.

Shelters

- Ease entry conditions for women including their children, without complicating the process.
- Build more shelters in several regions and not only according to the high rate of violence per region.
- Raise awareness on shelters through social media, billboards, televisions, SMS.
- Work on enforcing new programs to support establishment of new shelters.

Women Participation

- Conduct campaigns to raise awareness about the amendment of the municipal law of year 2017.
- More advocacy on the participation of women based on a rational campaign and agenda.
- Programs aimed at shifting attitudes and behaviours towards women in politics.
- Advocate and hold accountable media outlets to stop illegally selling airtime during elections.
- Conduct a step-by-step candidate advertisement campaigns cross country.
- Work to have a quota system (seats in parliament, municipal board members, and party lists).
- Promote for higher government inspection of illicit ways of incentivizing voters, that utilize patriarchal structures.



Resulting from the experience of all partners, in Jordan and Lebanon, and consequently based on the results received, Hivos in consultation with its expert team members were much more persuaded of the necessity to ensure this remains a regional tool, combining together the best practices to overcome the challenges driven from the pilot experience, and as result, unifying the measurement tool itself with the opportunity to explore different fields of interests to be subject of measurement in consideration of the distinctiveness and particularity of the in-country context, thus, a unified methodological structure of a **Regional Gender Barometer** was custom-built reconciling both piloted methodologies.

The Regional Gender Barometer is a main essential methodical necessity to reach out goals of gender equality in much more scientifically oriented approach, gathering statistics and imperial data, while many similar programs had been actively executed in the region to enhance women's situation and empower them, and because Hivos believes that citizens, activists and civil society organizations in MENA countries have the right to access national sex-disaggregated and gendered data and statistics about the society they live in from the economy to sexual health access to labour rights. In particular, data pertaining to women and girls should be collected so that policies reversing discrimination and marginalization can be advocated for and enacted by governments, thus the need to maintain and advance the establish knowledge generation production platform as a regional gender measurement tool.

The regionalization process of the Gender Barometer, and like beforehand stated, consists of bringing together the best applicable practices from all partners production of their National Gender Barometers from methodology and design, structure and core implementation, management and time necessitated, data collection process and analysis. The piloted project developed a streamlined procedure for data collection and reporting on Gender Equality in Lebanon and Jordan. This pilot was inspired by the SADC Gender Barometer, which is coordinated by Gender Links, a Hivos partner in Southern Africa, and envisaged as part of a long-term programme aimed holding governments accountable for weak and fragile policies towards gender equality.

The **Regional Gender Barometer** specifically aims at

1

Creating a locally owned and operated open-access gender equality update platform, where local women's organizations collect and aggregate existing data (in the form of indicators) pertaining to gender equality themes in an open access platform. The platform will also periodically survey the general population to gauge actual progress on the indicators - the lived experience behind the numbers.

2

Lobby the government to priorities, invest in and publish gender equality data. This includes missing data identified in the collection process, and support the work with, and if necessary, to build the capacities of national and local partners including the relevant statistics or planning departments on producing gendered data in line with the indicators.

3

Counter disinformation, fake news and unsubstantiated claims on gender equality and women's rights, by working with activists to transform the data into smart content for advocacy and public awareness, and thus feeding into well designed and needs driven programs responding to the real needs of women and girls in the region.



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